



## Let's Draw It

### The Lost Sheep

**BIG IDEA:** Jesus loves me so, so much.

**BIBLE BASIS:** Luke 15:1-7

**KEY VERSE:** "Just as the Father has loved me, I have loved you."  
John 15:9

## ★ PLAY TIME ACTIVITY

### SWITCH-A-ROO

**Supplies:** Identical cups (3), cotton ball (1)

**Directions:** Show the children a cotton ball and tell them to pretend that it's their pet sheep. You can even ask them to name their sheep. Place the three cups upside down and in a row. While the children are watching, put the sheep under one of the cups. Tell the children to pay careful attention to where the sheep wanders. Shuffle the three cups around so that it's difficult to track where the sheep went. When finished shuffling, have the children search for the sheep by guessing which cup it's under. Continue playing additional rounds for as long as time and interest allow.

**Say:** Today's true Bible story is about a sheep that wanders away and gets lost. In just a little bit, we'll see if the sheep ever gets found. We'll also learn that **Jesus loves us so, so much.**

**Question:** Have you ever lost something special? Did you look for it? Did you find it?

## ★ LARGE GROUP LESSON



## ★ SMALL GROUP ACTIVITIES

### **HIDE AND SHEEP** (Application Activity)

**Supplies:** Cotton ball (1 per group), blindfold (optional, 1 per group)

**Directions:** Sit with the children in a circle. Show them the cotton ball and tell them to pretend like it's the lost sheep. Choose one child to sit in the middle of the circle while wearing a blindfold or with their eyes closed. Begin passing the sheep around the circle while saying the rhyme below. When the rhyme is finished, have the child who is holding the sheep conceal it in their hands. The other children in the circle can pretend to be concealing something too. Have the child in the middle open their eyes and guess where the sheep is hiding by pointing to a child in the circle and saying, "**Jesus loves you so, so much.**" Allow them to keep guessing until they find the sheep. Next, choose another child to sit in the middle and repeat as many times as interest allows.

#### **Rhyme:**

I can search high, I can search low.  
I can search through the rain and snow.  
I can search left, I can search right.  
I can search through the day and night.

**Say:** Sometimes we can be like the lost sheep. We can make bad choices and wander away from Jesus. But Jesus doesn't let us stay lost. He searches for us high and low because **He loves us so, so much.**

**Question:** What kind of bad choices do you sometimes make? Does Jesus still love you when you make that bad choice? (Answer: YES! Jesus doesn't want you to make bad choices, but He still loves you when you do.)

### **THE MISSING SHEEP** (Application Activity)

**Supplies:** Blanket or sheet (1 per group), blindfold (optional, 1 per group)

**Directions:** Have the children sit in a circle. Choose a child and have them close their eyes or place a blindfold on them. While their eyes are closed, point to another child in the circle. Help that child quietly stand up and move behind the blindfolded child. Place a sheet or blanket over the child to further conceal their identity. When ready, tell the blindfolded child to remove the blindfold, look around the circle, and say which of their friends is missing. After guessing, allow that child to remove the sheet or blanket to see if they were right. Upon the reveal, have the children say, "Hooray! We found the missing sheep!" Continue playing additional rounds for as long as time and interest allow.

**Say:** Jesus knows each one of us by name. And He knows if we wander away from Him. But **Jesus loves us so, so much.** He looks for us until He finds us and brings us back to Him.

**Question:** Why do you think Jesus loves you so, so much?



## **HOT LAVA** (Bible Memorization Activity)

**Supplies:** Tape (1 roll)

**Preparation:** Create a tape line on the floor in a zig-zag pattern. The line should be about 10 feet long.

### **Today's Bible verse:**

"Just as the Father (*point up with both hands*) has loved me (*hug yourself*), I (*point to yourself with both thumbs*) have loved (*hug yourself again*) you (*point to children*)." John 15:9 (*extend hands like you're holding a book*).

**Directions:** Practice the verse together until the children can remember it. When ready, tell the children to pretend like the floor is hot lava and the only safe passage across is on the tape line. Challenge the children to walk the line one at a time while reciting the verse aloud. If they step off of the line, they must begin again. After all of the children complete one trip across the hot lava, play additional rounds using different methods for crossing the lava, such as walking backwards or hopping on one foot.

## **LET'S DRAW IT** (Bible Story Review Activity)

**Supplies:** Butcher block paper (1 large sheet), markers or crayons

**Directions:** Give the children markers or crayons and have them gather around a large piece of butcher block paper. Ask the children, "What happened first in the today's Bible story?" Allow the children to answer. Then, tell the children to draw that part of the story. They can each create their own drawings on the paper. When finished, ask the children what happened next in the story. Then, just like before, have them draw that part of the story. As the story unfolds, so will the drawings. When finished, consider hanging the butcher block paper on the wall for the children to see.

## **COLORING SHEET AND SNACK TIME** (GO! Deeper Activity)

**Directions:** During the large group storytelling time, children will receive a coloring sheet with missing pictures. As the story progresses, the children will draw the missing pictures. For this activity, allow the children to color their now-completed coloring sheet. While the children are coloring, give them a snack to eat and ask the following questions to help them go deeper into the story:

**Question:** Why do you think the man left his 99 sheep to look for the one lost sheep?

**Question:** The man was so, so happy when he found his lost sheep. How do you think Jesus feels when He finds us after we wander away from Him?

**Say:** Sometimes we make bad choices and wander away from Jesus. **But Jesus loves us so, so much.** Just like the lost sheep, He finds us and forgives us. Let's say a prayer and tell Jesus "sorry" for the bad things we've done.

**Prayer:** Begin by asking if any of the children would like to pray. Allow any children who want to pray the opportunity to do so. When they're finished, close the prayer by asking Jesus to forgive the children for the bad things they shared and by thanking Him for loving us so, so much.