Sweet Treats | Week 2 | February 08, 2026
Adapted by Niki P/Venture Church/Jan. 2026



TODAY'S BIBLE STORY: The Lost Sheep • Luke 15:3-7
Jesus sees me.

MEMORY VERSE: "*Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me.'"* • Matthew 19:14 NLT

KEY QUESTION: Who loves you?

BOTTOM LINE: Jesus loves me.

OPENING ACTIVITY: Sheep Here, Sheep There

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY: Pass the Sheep

CRAFT: Find the Hidden Sheep

CLOSING ACTIVITY: Sheep on Your Shoulder

OPENING ACTIVITY | Sheep Here, Sheep There

What You Need:

- □ Cotton balls or white pompoms
- □ Container

WHAT YOU DO & SAY:

***Before the Activity*:**

- Ask children to join you in an open area of the room.

- "Hello, hello friends! I have a fun game for us to play today. Come join me over here and spread out so we all have plenty of room to move around."

During the Activity:

- Give each child a cotton ball or pom-pom. Call out different places for them to put their sheep.

- "Okay, we are going to pretend that these fluffy cotton balls are sheep. Everybody gets one fluffy sheep. *(Hand each child a cotton ball.)* Okay! Listen closely and we are going to try and balance our sheep on our … foot! Put your sheep on your foot. *(Pause.)* If it falls off, that's okay! Pick it up and put it back on! Put your sheep on your… elbow! *(Pause.)* Hooray! Great job! Now put your sheep on your … ear! *(Continue with different places like elbow, wrist, back, head, etc.)* Wow, great job everyone! I have one more place for us to put our sheep. Ready? Put your sheep on your … shoulder! *(Pause.)* Fantastic! Everyone, bring your sheep and put them in the container."

After the Activity:

- "Today we're going to hear a story about a sheep that was lost but the shepherd found it and carried it back. Let's go hear more about the story."

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY | Pass the Sheep

What You Need:

- ☐ Plush Sheep or fluffy white pillow

WHAT YOU DO & SAY:

***Before the Activity*:**

- Encourage children to sit in a circle with you. Say the verse and do the motions together with the children.

- "Everyone, sit down in a circle with me. Let's say our verse together as we do the motions. Ready? 'Jesus said *(tap finger to middle of each palm)* "Let the children *(point to children)* come to me"' *(move hands toward self)* Matthew 19:14. *(Open hands like a book.)* Great job!"

During the Activity:

- Pass the sheep/pillow around the circle as you say the verse together. Repeat as desired.

- "Today we will hear a story that Jesus told about a *(hold up the sheep stuffy/pillow)* a shepherd who found his lost sheep. Let's pass this sheep around as we say our verse. Ready, here we go! *(Pass the sheep/pillow.)* 'Jesus said "Let the children come to me,"' Matthew 19:14. Let's keep going! *(Continue to pass the sheep/pillow as you say the verse.)* Woo-hoo! Great job, everybody!"

After the Activity:

- "The Bible teaches us that Jesus loves us and wants to be our friend forever! That's such an awesome thing, Jesus loves you *(point to children)* and ***[Bottom Line]*** **Jesus loves me.** Jesus loves us like the shepherd loved his sheep. **Who loves you? *[Bottom Line]* Jesus loves me. That's** right! **Who loves you? *[Bottom Line]* Jesus loves me!"**

CRAFT | Find the Hidden Sheep

What You Need:

- □ "Find the Hidden Sheep" Activity Page
- □ Cardstock
- □ Crayons or washable markers
- □ Small heart stickers

WHAT YOU DO & SAY:

Before the Activity:

- "We're going to play a game to find a sheep that's hiding in this picture. When you find it, you'll get to put a heart sticker on it to show that it's loved!"

During the Activity:

- Give each child a picture and invite them to search for the hidden sheep. When a child finds the sheep, give them a heart sticker to place on it. Encourage children to help each other spot the sheep if someone is having trouble. Encourage the children to color the other animals in the picture.

- "Look closely. Can you spot the sheep? *(Pause.)* When you find it, put your finger on it. *(Pause.)* Great job! Now put your heart sticker right on top of the sheep. *(Pause.)* Hearts make us think of love. This little sheep is so loved. Now color the other animals on your paper. *(Pause.)* Fantastic! You all found the hidden sheep!"

After the Activity:

- "Today we're going to hear a story that Jesus told about a shepherd with lots and lots of sheep. The shepherd loved his sheep so much! Let's go hear more about the shepherd and his sheep."

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BIBLE STORY

Open Bible for children to see, then set it down.

LEADER: "Jesus told a story to help people understand God's love. It starts with a shepherd. A shepherd takes care of sheep! What sound does a sheep make?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Baa!"

LEADER: "Good job! Pretend you're a shepherd with one hundred sheep. That's a lot! So let's count to ten together just to get started." *(Count to ten with the group using fingers, then spread arms wide.)*

LEADER: "And there were many more … one hundred sheep!"

CHILDREN and LEADER: One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten!

LEADER: "But one day, the shepherd counted and realized something was wrong. He had ninety-nine … but one sheep was missing."

LEADER: "Let's all say, 'Oh no!'"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Oh no!"

LEADER: "Should the shepherd say, 'It's fine, I still have ninety-nine'? Or should he look for the one that is lost?" *(Children respond.)*

LEADER: "The shepherd loved every single sheep, so he went to find the one that was lost." *(Shade eyes with one hand.)*

LEADER: "Look to the left… look to the right… look behind you… look up the hill." *(Lead kids to look in each direction.)*

LEADER: "Let's listen. Do you hear a 'baa'?" *(Cup hands behind ears; pause a beat.)*

LEADER: "He found it! The shepherd was so happy. Can you cheer for the sheep?" *(Quiet cheer together: "Yay!")*

LEADER: "He picked up the sheep, put it on his shoulders, and carried it all the way home." *(Model a careful "carry" across your shoulders)*

LEADER: "When he got home, he told his friends, 'I found my lost sheep! Let's celebrate!'
Do one big 'Hooray!'

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Hooray!"

LEADER: "Jesus told this story because He loves people like that shepherd loved his sheep. Each person matters to Jesus. When someone feels far away or makes a bad choice, Jesus comes after us so we can be close to Him again."

(Place both hands over heart; children copy.)

LEADER: "Let's say our Bible words together one time."

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me.'"

(Open hands like a book for "Bible," then move hands toward yourself for "come to me.")

LEADER: "Who loves you?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Jesus loves me."

LEADER: "Yes! Jesus loves you, and Jesus loves me. Jesus loves children."

LEADER: "You've got it! I am so happy that **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.** Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER - Dear God, thank You for Jesus. Thank You for the story of the lost sheep that reminds us how much You love us. Thank You for always coming to find us and bring us close to You. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CLOSING ACTIVITY | Sheep on Your Shoulder

What You Need:

- □ Fluffy pillow
- □ White pillowcase

WHAT YOU DO & SAY:

Before the Activity:

- Put the pillowcase on the pillow. Ask children to sit with you in a circle on the floor. Hold up the pillow and tell children this will be the lost sheep from our Bible Story. Place the pillow on the floor.

- "Hello, hello friends! Come sit with me in a circle over here on the floor. Let's pretend this pillow is a soft, fluffy sheep like in our story." *(Place it across the room from your Small Group spot.)*

During the Activity:

- Call one child at a time to pretend to be the shepherd and go to the sheep. Encourage child to pick up the "sheep," put it on their shoulder then carry it back to the circle. Encourage the children to say "Yay!" and celebrate the sheep's safe return. The leader will take the pillow back to its spot. Continue with each child.

- "We are going to take turns pretending to be the shepherd in today's Bible Story. [Child's name] stand up and go find your lost sheep. *(Pause.)* Yay, you found the sheep! Pick up your sheep. *(Pause.)* Put it over your shoulder, then bring it back to the circle. *(Pause.)* When the shepherd came home with his lost sheep everyone celebrated. Friends, let's shout 'Hooray!' Ready? One, two, three! Hooray! Wow! What a great celebration! I will put our sheep back. *(Pause.)* Okay, I think we are ready for our next shepherd. *(Continue with each child.)* That was so much fun!"

After the Activity:

- "Today in our true story from the Bible, Jesus shared a story about a shepherd and his sheep. The shepherd had 100 sheep. That's a lot of sheep! But one day, one of his sheep went missing! The shepherd loved ALL of his sheep, so he left all his other sheep and went to look for the one lost sheep. When he found it, he was so happy! The shepherd put the sheep on his shoulders and carried it home to the other sheep then he celebrated with his friends and family!

- "Jesus told this story to help people understand how much He loves everyone, no matter where we are or what we've done. Jesus loves everyone just like the shepherd loved his sheep. Jesus loves EVERYONE no matter where we are or what we've done, Jesus wants to bring us close to Him. Jesus loves you and ***[Bottom Line]*** **Jesus loves me!** That's right! **Who loves you? *[Bottom Line]* Jesus loves me!"**

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