



# The Lost Sheep

*Luke 15:1-7 and John 10:2-5, 11-15*

## ▶ My Story

In this story, I'm most like . . .

## ▶ God's Mission

This story showed me this about God:

about me:

about others:

# PREVIEW

## ▶ My Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for being my good shepherd! You always . . .

Forgive me for times when . . .

Please show your love to these people who seem to be hurting, lost, or lonely . . .

Help me to show your love to them too.  
Amen.

# Feeling Sheepish?

Ever wonder why the Bible compares followers of Jesus to sheep? Visit **www.Sheep101.info**. Read “About Sheep” to learn about sheep smarts and discover what happens if they follow a bad leader.

Spend a few minutes today talking to your good shepherd in prayer!

## Sheep Smarts

How much do you know about sheep?

1. There are about 1 billion sheep on the planet.

T  F

2. Sheep are stupid.

T  F

3. Sheep prefer still water when they drink.

T  F

4. Ewes usually give birth to twins.

T  F

5. Sheep have a good sense of hearing.

T  F

6. Sheep are color blind.

T  F

7. A baby lamb can identify its mother by smell.

T  F

8. A one-year-old sheep is called a hogget.

T  F



## Sheep Detective

How many more places in the Bible can you find that mention sheep? If you're not sure, try searching online for sheep and shepherds in the Bible. Then make your list!



## Jesus: My Good Shepherd

**Psalm 23** creates a vivid picture in our minds of what it's like to be known and loved by God. Read Psalm 23 and imagine yourself as the sheep in the pasture. Which part sounds the best to you? Sit quietly for a moment and listen for the voice of the good shepherd—

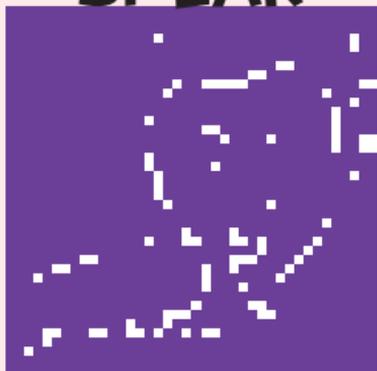
what is Jesus saying to your heart?

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# Learn Your Signs

This is the sign language prayer your group will be saying together each time you get ready to listen to God's story during the next few weeks. Practice the signs and teach them to your friends or family!

**SPEAK**



**LORD**



**YOUR**

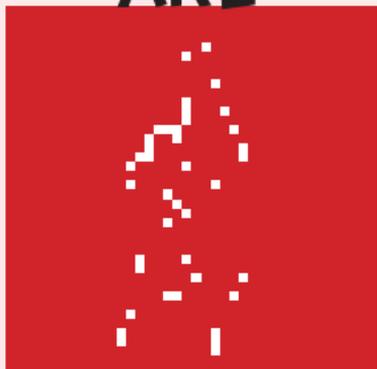


**PEOPLE**



PREVIEW

**ARE**



**LISTENING**



1. T; 2. F—Sheep prefer to drink from running or flowing water; 4. T; 5. T; 6. F—Sheep can think, solve problems, and have excellent memories; 3. F—Sheep prefer to drink from running or flowing water; 4. T; 5. T; 6. F—Sheep can see color. They just have trouble seeing things that are too close to them; 7. F—A baby lamb identifies its mother by her bleat. 8. T

**Memory**



**Challenge:**

*Psalm 23:1-6*

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Marvel, Year 1, Unit 1, Session 1  
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Don't forget to look for today's symbol in your **God's Big Study** handbook.



# The Lost Son

*Luke 15:11-32*

## ► Bible Story

This story makes me feel ...

I think Jesus wanted me to know that ...

## ► My Prayer

Dear Father, thank you for being my loving  
father, even when ...

# PREVIEW

Help me to show your love  
to others, even when ...

Amen.

# Who's Lost?

Sometimes people call today's story the story of the lost sons. Why might that be? Look through the words on these pages.

- ▶ Circle words that describe the older son.
- ▶ Draw a square around words that describe the younger son.
- ▶ Make a triangle around words that describe the father.



## Phari-who?

The Pharisees were often in the crowd who listened to the stories of Jesus. They were the religious leaders of the Jewish people—very important people. If you want to find out more about these well-known Bible people check out Pharisees on Wikipedia.

Why do you think Jesus wanted the Pharisees to hear this story?

# The Lost Son Today PREVIEW

What if Jesus were telling the story of the lost son today in your church or school? How might the story change? For example, where would the son go when he left home? Try writing or drawing your version of the story.



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# Word Wizard

Find the following words in the word search from the story of the lost son:

FATHER | LOST | PIGS | COMPASSION | HUNGRY  
SIN | CELEBRATE | PARTY | HOME | OLDER SON

P A C D G H Z D O N  
I X P O C U B A T O  
G E P Z E N I S Q I  
S R T B L G O C E S  
F A T H E R I G H S  
J L H U B Y T R F A  
O T O D R Y T R A P  
S N M S A M J W X M  
P Q E A T K Z Y L O  
R O L D E R S O N C

# PREVIEW

## Think About It

Read Luke 15:11-32. With a pencil, circle all the times the passage mentions the word FATHER. How many times is it written?

Which words from the parable of the lost son would you use to describe God our Father? Circle the best ones in your opinion.

Angry Peaceful Forgiving  
Hateful Loving Bitter

Memory



Challenge:

Psalm 23:1-2

Marvel, Year 1, Unit 1, Session 2

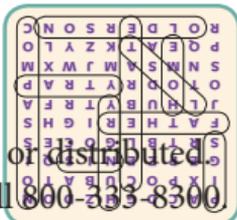
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# The Great Banquet

*Luke 14:15-24*

## ▶ The Not So Great at the Great Banquet

Find a comfortable place in your room, kitchen, or living room, and read the parable of the great banquet again from Luke 14:15-24. Then read Revelation 3:20. Write some of your thoughts about the story below.

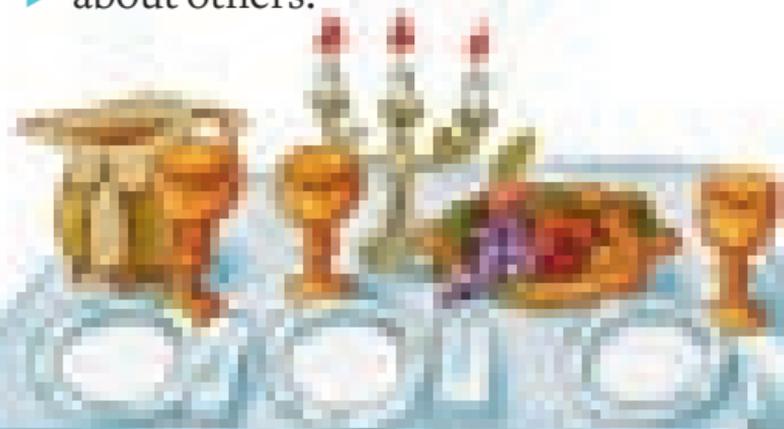
In this story, I'm most like...

# PREVIEW

The biggest surprise in this story was...

What this story showed me

- ▶ about God:
- ▶ about me:
- ▶ about others:



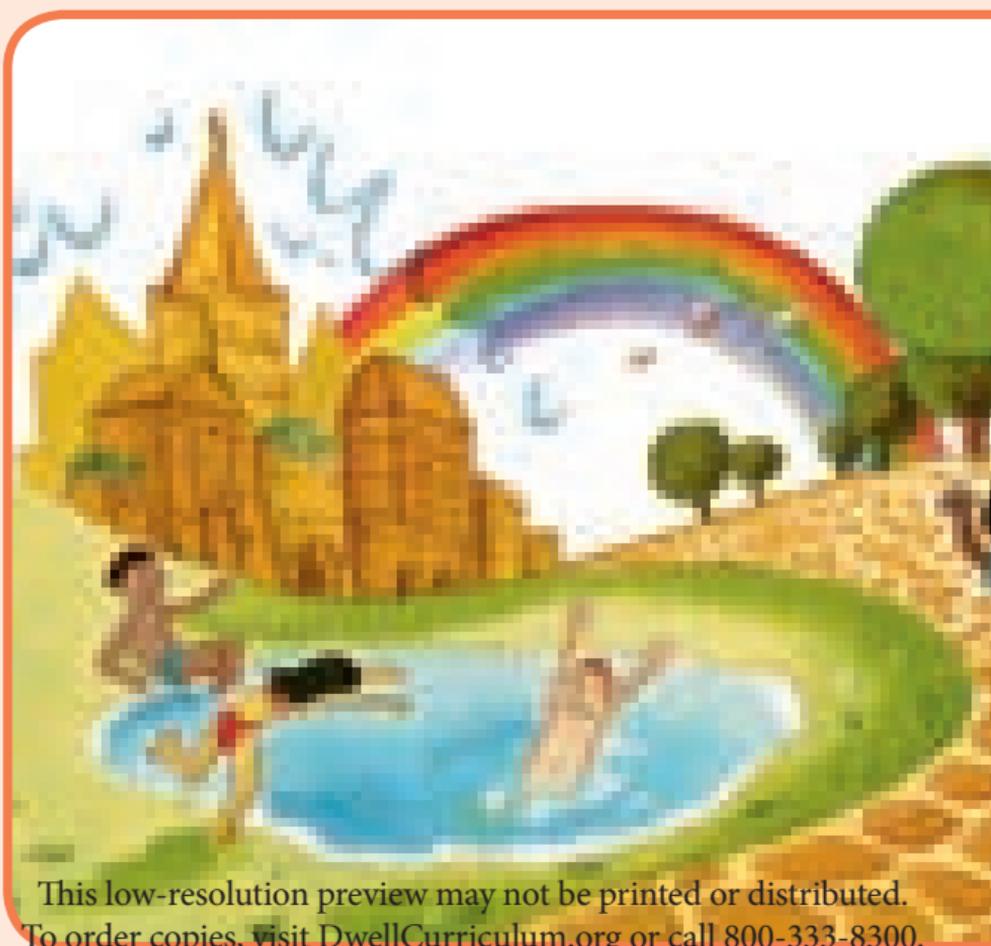
# Imagine That!

Read Revelation 21:1-4.

What do you like best about this description of the new heaven and the new earth?

When you imagine the new earth, after Jesus comes again, what do you picture? (You may want to Google “heaven” too. You’ll find lots of pictures and posters of what other people imagine heaven will be like.)

# PREVIEW



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The new heaven/the new earth will have . . .

The new heaven/the new earth will be like . . .

The new heaven/the new earth will be better than . . .

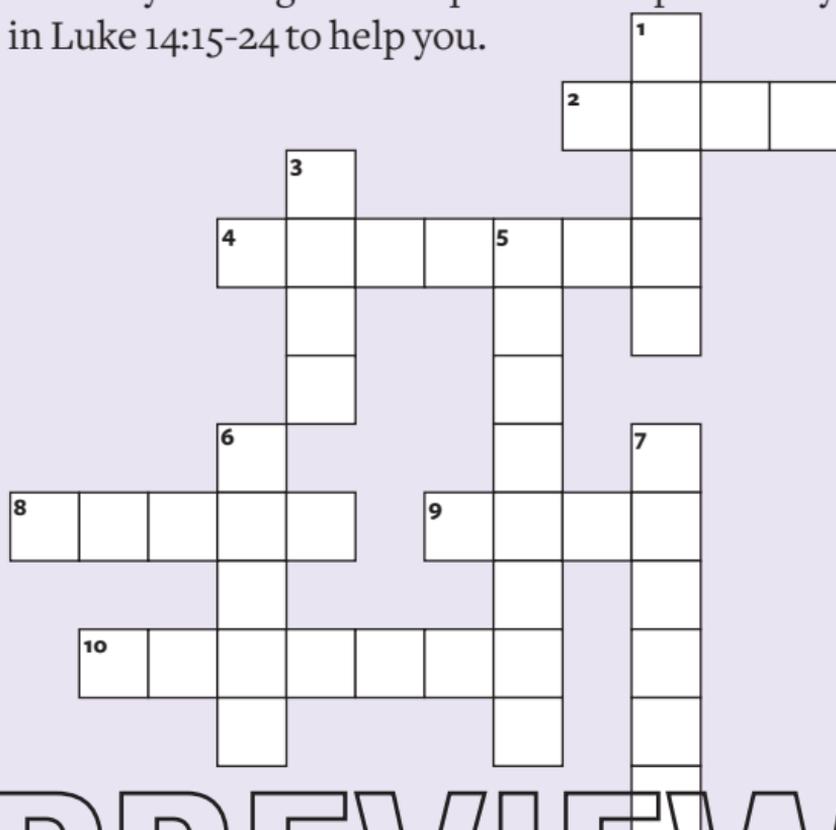
# PREVIEW



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# Puzzled?

Complete the following puzzle with words from the story of the great banquet. Look up the story in Luke 14:15-24 to help you.



# PREVIEW

Across:

2. These people didn't have fine clothes to wear to the banquet.

4. When the master heard their \_\_\_\_\_, he became angry.

8. Another invited person bought a plot of land called a \_\_\_\_\_.

9. These people had to be carried to the banquet.

10. A certain man invited many guests to a great \_\_\_\_\_.

Down:

1. The man held the banquet at his own \_\_\_\_\_.

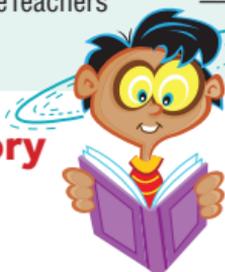
3. One invited person said, "I have just bought a yoke of \_\_\_\_\_."

5. The master told his \_\_\_\_\_ to invite the poor, the lame, and the blind to come to his banquet.

6. These people could not see, but they were invited to the banquet.

7. God invites all \_\_\_\_\_ to enter his kingdom.

Provided by [www.TheTeachersCorner.net](http://www.TheTeachersCorner.net)



**Memory**

**Challenge:**

*Psalm 23:1-3*

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# The Rich Fool

*Luke 12:13-21*

## ▶ Mr. Rich Man

At home, read the story of the foolish rich man again from Luke 12:13-21.

Then write a letter to the rich man, warning him about his selfish ways. How could you encourage the man to make the right choice this time? Write your words below:

Dear Mr. Rich Man,

# PREVIEW

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---

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Love,





## Trash to Treasure

Answer the following questions by checking “Yes” or “No” in the spaces provided.

Did you eat at least two meals today?

Yes  No

Do you have a place to live (a house, an apartment, a townhouse, or somewhere else)?

Yes  No

Do you have clean running water in your house?

Yes  No

Do you own more than one pair of shoes?

Yes  No

Do you own more than one shirt and pair of pants?

Yes  No

Do you know how to read?  Yes  No

Do you know how to use a computer?

Yes  No

If you checked “Yes” to three or more of these questions, then guess what? You are RICH!

There are thousands of kids your age around the world who could not answer “Yes” to even three of these questions. What is one thing you can do to help someone else in need?

Write your answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

Go through your room and choose at least three items you no longer use (clothes you have outgrown, toys you no longer play with, old books, and so on). Put these items in a bag and ask an adult to take you to a local thrift store to drop off your unused items. Your

“trash” could become another child’s treasure!

I will give my time to God by . . .

I will use my talents for God by . . .

PREVIEW

I will give my treasures to God by . . .

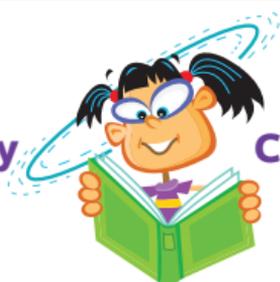


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The rich fool on his last day. What do you suppose he's thinking?

**Memory**



**Challenge:**

*Psalm 23:1-4*

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# The Ten Bridesmaids

*Matthew 25:1-13*

## ► My Story

At home this week reread the parable of the ten bridesmaids found in Matthew 25:1-13. Think about where *you* are in the parable.

I am most like the wise bridesmaids when I...

# PREVIEW

I am most like the foolish bridesmaids when I...



# Word Scramble

See if you can unscramble the following words from the Bible passage:

1. **APLM** \_\_\_\_\_

2. **OMRBIOREDGD** \_\_\_\_\_

3. **SEWI** \_\_\_\_\_

4. **DIEGNWD** \_\_\_\_\_

5. **DSIMEDARBSI** \_\_\_\_\_

6. **LSIOFHO** \_\_\_\_\_

7. **LIO** \_\_\_\_\_

8. **ASJR** **PREVIEW**

## An Interview with Jesus

Read the wonderful descriptions in Revelation 22:1-5 of what the new heaven and the new earth will be like. If you could meet with Jesus today and ask him any questions about what his perfect kingdom (what we sometimes call heaven) will be like, what would you ask him? Write your questions for Jesus in the spaces provided.

**Question #1:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Question #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Question #3:** \_\_\_\_\_

# Candle Holders

Try making a candle holder to remind you of the lamps of the five wise bridesmaids. Here's what you need:

- ▶ A small, empty glass jar
- ▶ Tissue paper
- ▶ Scissors
- ▶ White glue
- ▶ Small candle

## What to do:

Pour a small amount of glue into a cup and add two to three tablespoons of water to make the glue a little watery. Then cut out pieces of tissue paper and glue them to your jar, using your glue mixture. (You can use a paint brush to put the glue on the tissue paper, or just use your fingers.)

Cover your whole jar with tissue paper, and then set it aside to dry. Next, find a small candle to put inside the jar, and ask an adult to help you light the candle and watch the beautiful colors from the tissue paper fill the jar!



1. lamp, 2. bridegroom, 3. wise, 4. wedding, 5. bridesmaids, 6. foolish, 7. oil, 8. jars.



## ▶ Prayer

**Leader:** Lord Jesus, we know that you will come again someday.

**Children:** We want to be ready.

**Leader:** You will come with great power and glory.

# PREVIEW

**Children:** We want to be ready.

**Leader:** With the sound of a loud trumpet.

**Children:** We want to be ready.

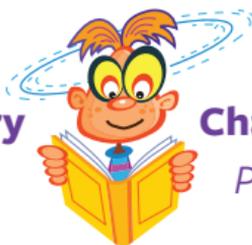
**Leader:** We will meet you in the clouds.

**Children:** We want to be ready.

**Leader:** We will be with you forever.

**All:** Make us ready for your triumphant return. Amen.

**Memory**



**Challenge:**

*Psalm 23:1-5*

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# The Wicked Tenants

*Luke 20:9-16*

Find a comfy spot at home to read the parable of the tenants found in Luke 20:9-16. If you have grapes in your refrigerator, you might want to snack on some as you read the story.

What surprised you most about this story?

What scene in the story did you like the best?

# PREVIEW

What picture did you have of God after reading this story?



# Picture It

Try to imagine what the characters in Jesus' story about the tenants were thinking and saying. Fill in the balloons in the cartoons with your ideas. Then use your cartoons to share the story with someone!



**1** A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers, and went away on a long journey.



**2** At harvest time he sent a servant to collect some of the fruit from the vineyard.



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**3** But the tenants beat the servant and sent him away empty-handed. The owner sent two more servants, but the tenants beat them up too, and threw the servants out of the vineyard.



**PREVIEW**

**4** Finally the owner sent his only son, whom he loved.



**5** But when the tenants saw him, they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

**6** After hearing of his son's death, the vineyard owner went to his vineyard and had the wicked tenants killed. Then he gave the vineyard to other farmers.

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## ▶ Grapes of Love

With a purple colored pencil or crayon, color all of the grapes that describe who God is.

God is...



Interested in vineyards? Check out Wikipedia's article on vineyards to get a clearer picture of where this story took place.

**Memory**



**Challenge:**

*Psalm 23:1-6*

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