

LEADER'S GUIDE

YOUNGER CHILDREN

BIG PICTURE:

PARABLES

BIG IDEA:

THE LOST THINGS

BIG POINT:

I HAVE BEEN FOUND BY GOD

BIG WORD:

"AND WE KNOW THAT THE SON OF GOD HAS COME, AND HE HAS GIVEN US UNDERSTANDING SO THAT WE CAN KNOW THE TRUE GOD." 1 JOHN 5:20A (NLT)



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DOCUMENT PURPOSE

This document is the Leader's Guide for BIG Picture PARABLES. It contains an outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

The BIG 'Psalms, Proverbs, Parables - Wisdom for Life' User Guide document contains all the service element information, including the large group segment of your service.

Make sure you read through and prayerfully study this material prior to your service to be fully prepared to minister to your children.

Learning Outcomes

At the conclusion of this lesson children will:

- Discover the parables of the lost sheep, lost coin and lost son.
- Know that we have been found by God.
- Learn that when someone finds Jesus we should celebrate!

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KIDS DISCIPLESHIP GROUP (KDG)

DOCUMENT PURPOSE

Use this KDG outline to prepare an impacting small group time for you and your children.

CONNECT TIME

Have you played hide and seek? What was your best hiding place?

THE BIG QUESTION (TO DISCUSS IN YOUR KDG'S)

1. What three things were lost in the stories Jesus told?

The lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son.

2. How are we lost without Jesus?

Without Jesus we are all lost and separated from God. We are like a sheep going our own way, lost and apart from our shepherd. Isaiah 53:6 (NIV) "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all."

3. How are we found by God?

We are found in Christ. Through Jesus we are no longer lost! The three parables Jesus told about the lost things show us that we can be found. God searches after people and when one who was lost is found, there is a celebration like no other! Luke 15:10 (CEV) "Jesus said, 'In the same way God's angels are happy when even one person turns to him.' I have been found by God."

ACTIVITY SHEETS

Children complete the activity sheets in this time.

THE BIG ACTIVITY

Purpose: To remind the children that we have been found by God.

Directions: Give each child a 'Lost Sheep' page printed from print material files. Children can colour in the sheep and surrounds. Next give each child small squares of green paper, cutting into 3/4 of the square to make grass. Children can stick on the grass over the sheep using tape or child safe glue.

Explanation: Jesus told three parables about lost things. The lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. In each of these stories, something or someone very valuable and important was lost. Jesus said, Luke 15:4 (NIV) "Suppose a shepherd has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Won't he leave the ninety-nine in the open field while he goes in search of the lost sheep until he finds it?" You and I are a bit like lost sheep but through Christ we are found. I have been found by God.

BIG WORD

"And we know that the Son of God has come, and he has given us understanding so that we can know the true God." 1 John 5:20a (NLT)

Give each child a Big Word - Hidden Words page, help them to find words from the verse hidden in the picture.

GAME

Candy Relay - Divide your small group into two equal teams and have them form lines. Give the first child in each line a pair of mittens and give everyone a wrapped candy. When you say "Go" the first player in each line puts on the mittens, unwraps the candy and puts the candy in their mouth. Then they quickly take the mittens off and pass them to the next player in the line. The first team to have each player unwrap a candy while wearing mittens are the winners.

PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank You that we are found by You. We want to celebrate when the lost are found.

In Jesus name, Amen

Supplies Needed:

'Lost Sheep' page printed from print material files for each child. Green paper, scissors, tape or child safe glue, pencils, colouring pages.

Supplies Needed:

Big Word - Hidden Words page.

Supplies Needed:

2 pairs of mittens, individually wrapped candy.