

LEADER'S GUIDE

PRESCHOOL AND TODDLERS

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.

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. What do you do when you have lost something? How do you feel when you find it?

We look for it, we search everywhere until it's found. When we find it, we celebrate!

3. How are we found by God?

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." 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."

THE BIG ACTIVITY

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

Directions: Before the lesson use some green paper and cut into 3/4 of the square to make grass. 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 so 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, "suppose a shepherd has 100 sheep and loses one of them. Won't he leave the 99 in the open field while he goes to 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.

PLAYTIME LEARNING ACTIVITY

Talk about today's Bible stories, the lost sheep, the lost son and the lost coin, as you show the children how to find the coins under the page. Place the coins under a sheet of paper and use a soft lead pencil to gently rub the paper where the coin is underneath.

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:

Coins of various sizes, soft lead pencils, paper.