

Script – The Lost Lamb

[Scene 1 setup: This is a play within a play containing two scenes: one with Jesus speaking to the people and the other scene of the shepherd. In the second scene, the narrator directs the action as the children act out the roles of the shepherd and lambs.]

Narrator: Almost everywhere Jesus went people followed him. They wanted to see the wise teacher that they had heard so much about. They wanted to hear what he had to say. One day, a crowd gathered to hear Jesus. Most listened quietly, but...

Person 1: [contemptibly] What kind of a teacher is he?

Person 2: [sneering] I have heard that he talks with sinners and eats with them.

Narrator: Jesus looked at the men. He was sorry that they did not understand why he came to earth. So he decided to tell them a story to help them understand God’s love.

Jesus: Once there was a shepherd that had 100 sheep...

[Scene 2 setup: the children playing sheep are on their knees, pretending to eat grass and following the shepherd, etc.]

Narrator: The shepherd took good care of his sheep. He led his flock to the rich green grass. He walked ahead of the sheep and pushed aside the tall grass to make sure there were no poisonous snakes to harm them. At noontime he led the sheep to a quiet pool for cool drink of water. He knew that the sheep were afraid to drink from a stream where the water ran fast. The shepherd found a shady place for the sheep to rest when the sun was hot and high in the sky. When the sun went down in the afternoon, the shepherd led the sheep to another grassy place. When the sharp thorns of a bush caught a sheep, the shepherd helped it get loose. He poured oil on the cut to make it heal and take away the sting. When a lamb ran away from the flock, the shepherd would call it back. Sometimes he would have to run after it. He didn’t want any of the sheep to get hurt or lost. At night, he led his sheep to a sheepcote where they would be safe from wild animals.

[Have one child slip away from the flock and hide]

He counted the sheep as they went in. 94...95...96...97...98...99...quickly the shepherd looked around. Where was the last sheep? Will you watch my sheep, he asked another shepherd who was leading his sheep into the cote. One sheep is missing and I must go to find it. With his heart beating fast, the shepherd hurried fast along the hills looking for the lamb. Could it have fallen from the path? Or could a wolf or mountain lion have caught it? Suddenly the shepherd stopped and listened. In the distance, he heard a soft “bahhhh, bahhhh.” He then saw the trembling lamb in the shadow of a large rock. Quickly he checked to make sure the lamb was all right. With the lamb on his shoulders, the shepherd sang and whistled as he hurried back to the sheepcote. You must never wonder away again he told the lamb. You were frightened

and I was worried about you. I found him! I found my lamb that was lost in the hills! My lamb is safe.

[Back to scene 1]

Jesus: The shepherd was glad that he found the lost sheep. And there is great joy in heaven when one sinner is sorry for their sins.

Narrator: Jesus wanted people to know that he was the Good Shepherd.

The End