

Jesus the Good Shepherd

St John 10:11–16

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep. When the hired man, who is not a shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees a wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away; so the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them. The hired man runs away because he is only a hired man and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for them. There are other sheep which belong to me that are not in this sheep pen. I must bring them, too; they will listen to my voice, and they will become one flock with one shepherd.”



A Story from the Old Testament:

David the Shepherd Boy

Based on 1 Samuel 16:1–13

A long time ago Israel had a king named Saul. God picked Saul to be king. Saul was tall and handsome and everyone loved him. After Saul was king for 40 years he made a mistake and did not follow God's instructions. God decided that it was time for a new king.

God sent his priest, Samuel to go and look for the new king. God told Samuel to go to the house of Jesse in Bethlehem (where Jesus was born many, many, many years later). There he would find the new king.

Jesse showed Samuel all of his sons. They expected God to pick the oldest and strongest son to be king but instead God picked Jesse's youngest son, David.

David was just a boy but he would be king someday. Samuel anointed David. Everyone was surprised at the choice but God told Samuel, 'Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him.

The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward

appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesus was a descendant of David.



The Lord is My Shepherd

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;
I have everything I need.



He lets me rest in fields of green grass
and leads me to quiet pools of fresh water.

He gives me new strength.
He guides me in the right paths,
as he has promised.

Even if I go through the deepest darkness,
I will not be afraid, Lord,
for you are with me.

Your shepherd's rod and staff protect me.

You prepare a banquet for me,
where all my enemies can see me;
you welcome me as an honoured guest
and fill my cup to the brim.

I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life;
and your house will be my home as long as I live.

Psalm 23

Psalm 23 comes from the Book of Psalms in the Old Testament. Psalms (*pronounced "sawms"*) are a kind of sacred song or poem used in the worship of God. Tradition tells us that the Psalms were written by King David. The Psalms in the Bible express a huge range of emotions: some Psalms are joyful, some are sorrowful, some express fear and anger. Psalm 23 is a good reminder that everything in life comes from God.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I have everything I need."

What is most important in my life: _____

"He gives me new strength. He guides me in the right paths, as he has promised."

A time when God helped me through a challenge: _____

"Even if I go through the deepest darkness, I will not be afraid, Lord, for you are with me. Your shepherd's rod and staff protect me."

Something I am scared of or nervous about (that I know God can help me get through!):

“You prepare a banquet for me...you welcome me as an honoured guest and fill my cup to the brim.”

A special blessing in my life:

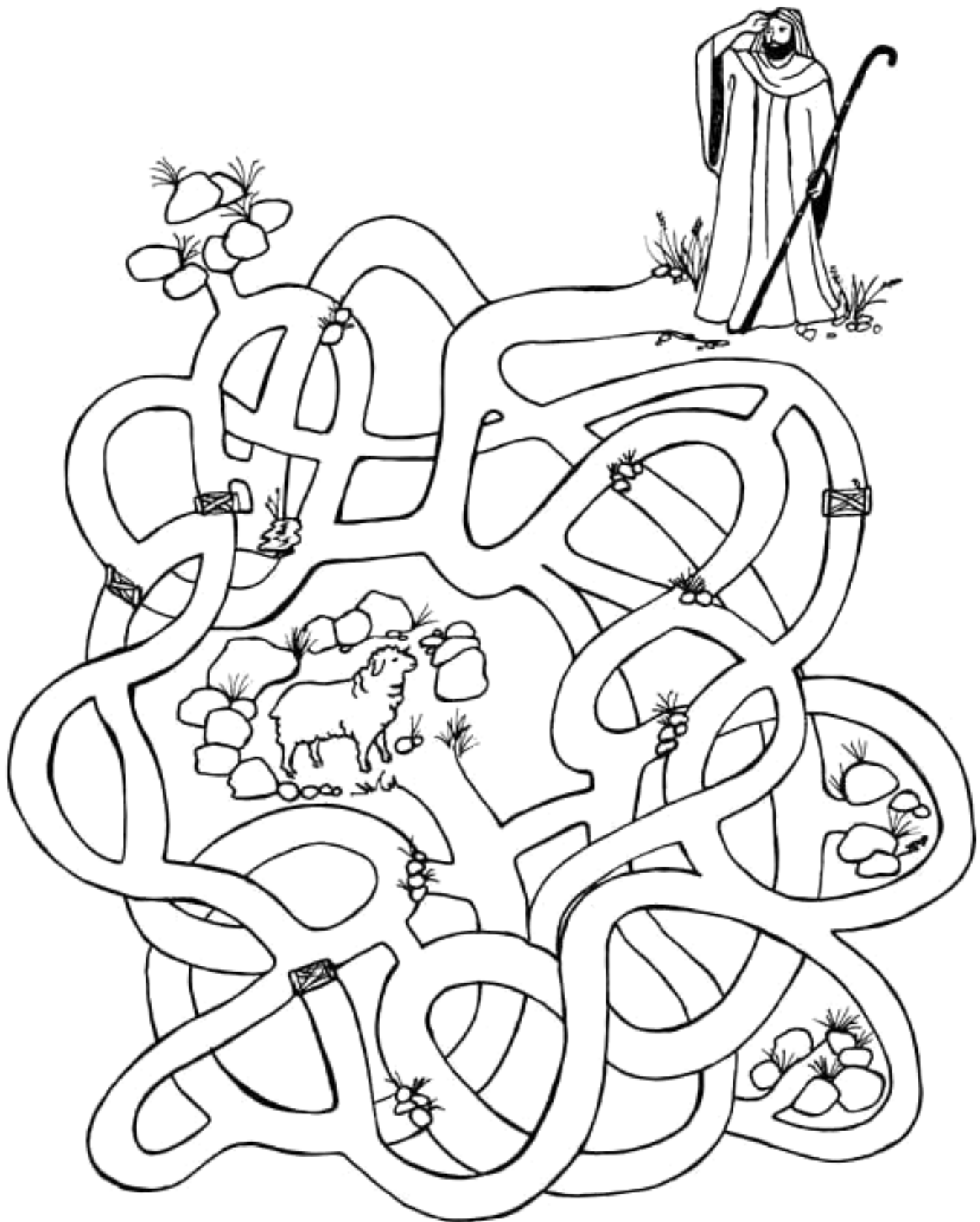
***“I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life;
and your house will be my home as long as I live.”***

A prayer of thanksgiving:

Thank you Lord for sending us Your Son Jesus to be our shepherd who laid down his life for us. You are the source of all the goodness in my life. Never let me stray from the safe path you have set before me. Guide me, protect me, and keep me in your flock forever. Through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen.



Help the Good Shepherd Find the Lost Sheep



Name: _____

Jesus the Good Shepherd

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

Find the following words in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

BIBLE
FATHER
FLOCK
GOD
GOOD
GOODNESS
GOSPEL

GUIDE
JESUS
JOHN
LISTEN
LOVE
PROTECT
PSALM

ROD
SHEEP
SHEPHERD
VOICE
WOLF