

This weeks **MEMORY VERSE!**

To learn it well, **READ** it, or **WRITE** it **EACH DAY** after your lesson! Then say it to someone you know!

John 10:11

**I (Jesus) am the good shepherd.
The good shepherd lays down
His life for the sheep.**

Who is the good shepherd? _____

What does the good shepherd do? _____



Circle the correct word in the parenthesis.

1. In the first parable Jesus is like the (shepherd, sheep, angels).
2. In the second parable, the woman was looking for a lost (coin, candle, friend).
3. The father was (angry, sad, happy) that the younger son came home.

Name _____

Jesus Teaches About Love

Luke 15



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One time some Pharisees and scribes, leaders of the Jews looked at the crowd around Jesus and saw all kinds of people who they thought were not as good as themselves. They muttered, “Just look at that! Jesus welcomes these sinners and even eats with them!”

The Lord Jesus knew what they were thinking, so He began to talk to them in parables or stories. These stories were about earthly things but had heavenly meanings.

A shepherd had a flock of one hundred sheep. Every day he led them to find water to drink and grass to eat.

One night as the sheep came back to the sheepfold, the shepherd counted them and found that one was missing. The shepherd left the 99 and went out into the dark to look for that one lost sheep.

When he finally found it, he picked it up and carried it to the sheepfold. He called his friends and neighbors together when he got home. He said to them, “Be happy with me! I have found my lost sheep!”

When the Lord Jesus had finished telling this story to the Pharisees and scribes, He said, “I want you to know that there is great rejoicing and celebrating in heaven when one sinner turns to God.”

Then Jesus told them a story about a woman who had ten silver coins. One day she went to look at her coins and found that one was missing. She looked and looked for it.

Finally she found it. She was very happy; she called her friends and her neighbors and said to them, “Rejoice with me; I’ve found my lost coin.”

Then Jesus said, “The woman was happy when she found her coin, but I want you to know that there is even greater rejoicing in heaven when someone who has sinned turns to God.”

Then Jesus told them another story. Once there was a man who lived with his two sons. There were servants to do the work, and life was very good.

One day the younger son came to his father and said, “Father, give me my share of the money that you were planning to give me some day.”

Some time later the younger son came to his father again. He said to his father, “Father I am leaving home.” He packed his things and left.

The younger brother spent his money on clothes, food and his friends. He had a great time while his money lasted. But he never thought of his loving father.

Finally, a day came when all his money was gone. His friends left him. To make matters worse, there was a famine in the land, and he soon became hungry. Before long he began to look for work. The only job he could find was feeding a farmer’s pigs.

Since he was a Jewish boy and the Jewish people have nothing to do with pigs, this was the worst kind of work he could have done. He was without friends and money and food. He was so hungry that he wanted to eat the food that he gave to the pigs.

One day as he was feeding the pigs, he finally realized his father’s servants were better off than he was. He decided to go back to his father’s house.

As the son neared home, his father saw him coming. His father had been watching down the road every day, looking and longing for his son to return home. Now he was finally coming back! The father ran to meet him.

The son spoke up, “Father, I have sinned against God and you, and I don’t deserve to be your son anymore.” He didn’t finish. His father said to a servant, “Quick! Bring the best robe for him, and put a ring on his finger and shoes on his feet. Let’s celebrate with a feast, for my son was lost and is found!” They had a party with music and good things to eat, and there was great rejoicing because the lost son had come home.

The older brother had been out in the field when all this happened. When he came back and heard the music and dancing, he asked one of the servants, “What is going on? Why is there a party?”

The servant answered, “Your brother has come home and your father is celebrating his safe return!” The older brother immediately became angry and jealous. He wouldn’t go in to greet his brother and enjoy the party.

His father came out and asked him to come in and celebrate with them, but this only made him angrier. He said to his father, “All these years I have worked hard and helped you and never disobeyed your orders. But you have never given me any kind of party or even a small feast! But my brother has wasted your money and sinned, and yet you had a big party for him!”

The father said, “But son, everything I have is yours and you know it. It is only right that we should be glad and celebrate because your brother is home. He was lost, as good as dead to us, and now he is found.”

As Jesus finished telling this last story, it was as if He were saying to those Pharisees and scribes who had complained about His eating with sinners, “The Good Shepherd loves everyone and welcomes them. You are acting like the older brother, who only pouted and complained and did not love his brother.”