

Jesus Is the Good Shepherd

By Suzanne Gosselin

for use as
STEP 1

**Lesson 2****Focus:**

Jesus willingly died to save us.

Lesson 2**Bible Basis:**

John 10:7-18; 15:13

Lesson 2**Memory Verse:**

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”
—John 10:11

As students contemplate how Jesus saved us, they will watch a video about two heroes who put their lives on the line to save a child from a burning building.

Materials:

Internet access

➤ **Who are some people who sometimes risk their lives to save others?** (Students may mention law enforcement officers, military, firefighters, parents for their children.)

➤ **What are some reasons someone might die for someone else?** (Students may answer that a person might do this out of duty, because it is their job, because they love or care for the person [parent].)

Some jobs are dangerous. Those who serve in the military or as police officers or as firefighters put themselves in harm’s way to protect and save others. Every day these people go into dangerous situations to help and rescue people. Let’s watch an amazing video about a crisis and rescue.

Share the following video [0:00-2:05]:

Firefighter reunites with child he helped save from burning building

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m82G_UHVHXU

➤ **How do you think the little girl and her family felt about the firefighter who saved her?** (Students may share that the girl and family were thankful, relieved, felt they owed him something, etc.)

➤ **The firefighter and the news reporter said that there were two heroes in this story. Who were they talking about and why were both of them heroes?** (Answers will vary but might include that the firefighter was a hero entering a dangerous situation and being willing to do whatever it took to save the victims. They might mention that it took the dad a lot of courage to trust the firefighter to catch this child [and later the newborn baby he went back to rescue].)

➤ **Can you tell about a time when you needed to be rescued?** (Remind your students that there are many more things we need to be rescued from than burning buildings. If your students

have a hard time thinking of things, remind them of some time when they were scared, hurt, or lost and someone came to rescue them. Be prepared to share your own experience.)

Not everyone is the victim of a disaster like a fire or flood, but all of us need to be rescued. Today we're going to talk about Jesus and how He was willing to lay down His life to save each one of us.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)

upper elementary



Lesson 2 / March 8, 2020

Jesus Is the Good Shepherd

for use as
STEP 4 

Lesson 2

Focus:

Jesus willingly died to save us.

Lesson 2

Bible Basis:

John 10:7-18; 15:13

Lesson 2

Memory Verse:

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."
—John 10:11

Materials:

Internet access

The Bible says Jesus came to lay down His life for sinners. He willingly died to save us. When Jesus lived on earth, one of the names He called Himself was the "good shepherd." He talked about all the good things a shepherd does, including being willing to give his life for his sheep. You and I probably don't have a lot of knowledge of the job of being a shepherd. Let's listen as a modern-day shepherd explains how his job reminds him of the Good Shepherd.

Share the following video [2:20]:

The life of a modern-day shepherd in the Middle East

[https://dcc-web-1.s3-us-west-](https://dcc-web-1.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/RLD+Assets/The+Life+of+a+Modern+Day+Shepherd+in+the+Middle+East.mp4)

[2.amazonaws.com/RLD+Assets/The+Life+of+a+Modern+Day+Shepherd+in+the+Middle+East.mp4](https://dcc-web-1.s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/RLD+Assets/The+Life+of+a+Modern+Day+Shepherd+in+the+Middle+East.mp4)

➤ **What is something that stood out to you about the shepherd?** (Answers will vary. Students may share that the sheep are dependent on the shepherd, or that the shepherd picked out the sick and weak animals and heals them.)

The man in the video is a good shepherd. Jesus is our good shepherd; He protects us, guides us, lovingly cares for us, and even laid down His life for us. Ask a volunteer to read today's memory verse (John 10:11).

Have any of you heard of the coronavirus discovered in China? As of the middle of February, cases of this virus topped 72,500 with over 1,800 related deaths. All across China, people are talking about Dr. Li Wenliang. He was the doctor who discovered the virus and reported it in December of last year. He continued to care for patients who came down with this strange virus up until the time he was infected himself. In the early morning of February 7, 2020, he died from the virus.

It is reported that Dr. Wenliang was a believer. He laid down his life to show Christ's love to others.

Let's pray for his family. Although updates haven't been available, it was reported that his wife is also infected and pregnant with their second child. May God heal them supernaturally and give them grace, peace, strength, and comfort during this time.

Challenge your students to write or draw a response to Jesus being the good shepherd sometime this week. For example, their response could begin with the words, "Because Jesus is the good shepherd, I will ..." or "Thank you, Jesus, for being my good shepherd."

Close in prayer. Invite a few of your students to lead out in prayer if they desire.

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