



A Getting Ready Prayer

God, as we get ready to be with you,
Open our ears to listen to you
(touch your ears)

Open our minds to help us think about you.
(put your hands on your head)

Open our eyes to see you in the world around
us.

(point to your eyes)

Open our hearts to love you more.
(cross your hands over your chest)

And open our hands to help each other.
(open out arms and hands wide)

Amen.



Time to Think...

- ✚ Do you know the story of the "Three Little Pigs?"
- ✚ I just love that story.
- ✚ The story begins with the mother pig sending her three little ones out into the world to make their fortune, but warns them to be aware of The Big Bad Wolf!
- ✚ There have been many stories written about a big, bad wolf.
- ✚ You have probably heard about "Little Red Riding Hood," "Peter and the Wolf," and "The Boy Who Cried Wolf,"
- ✚ Did you know that Jesus once told a story about a big, bad wolf?
- ✚ This is the story of "The Good Shepherd."

Sunday 25th April - Easter 4 - The Good Shepherd!

Tell the story...

Here are ways you could do this:

- ✚ Read John 10: 1-18 in a children's Bible.
- ✚ Read 'I am the gate' Pg 188 in 'The Big Bible Storybook' by SPCK.
- ✚ Watch the story on...

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKtW_3yQXBw

Talk Together...

- ✚ In the story that Jesus told, there is a good shepherd -- that's Jesus, a hired hand, a flock of sheep -- that's us, and a wolf -- that's the Devil or Evil.
- ✚ "I am the good shepherd," Jesus said. "The good shepherd gives his life for his sheep.
- ✚ A hired hand will run away when he sees a wolf coming, because the sheep don't belong to him and he doesn't really care about them.
- ✚ When the hired hand runs away, the wolf will attack and scatter the sheep."
- ✚ "I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me -- just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. I will lay down my life for my sheep."
- ✚ Jesus is the good shepherd and we are his sheep.
- ✚ He knows his sheep and he loves them.
- ✚ He will protect them if anything tries to harm them.
- ✚ When we put our trust in the good shepherd, Jesus, we can say...
- ✚ "Who's afraid of the big, bad wolf?"

Sing Together... (or listen)

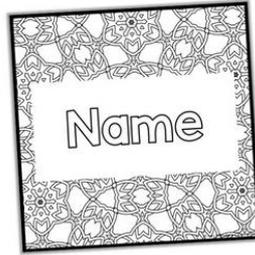
- ✚ Enjoy this action packed song - Oh, My Shepherd
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6eJXXSpNvk>

Make Together...

- ✚ Use cardboard, paper, pens, paints, paper plate/bowl, pasta, string, foam, magazines, newspapers, lollipop sticks, sticks, wool, toilet roll tubes or whatever you have in the house to make...
- ✚ A sheep and write on it, 'The Lord is my Shepherd' or our memory verse for this week, "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me - just as the Father knows me and I know the Father" - John 10: 14-15



- ✚ Create a beautiful name card using your own name and write 'I am the good shepherd: I know my sheep and my sheep know me'. This is to remind you that Jesus knows you by name and loves you.



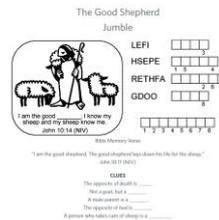
- ✚ Bible Chat Mat: Complete this awesome colouring-in sheet from 'Bath & Wells Diocese'. <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Jesus-the-Good-Shepherd.pdf>
This fab activity will encourage all the family to explore what Jesus meant when he said, 'I am the good shepherd'.



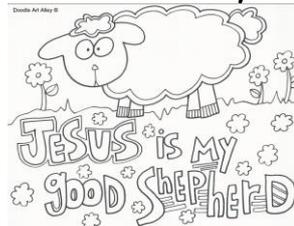
- ✚ Complete the Worship Bulletin - Colouring, Word search and puzzles.



- ✚ Complete 'The Good Shepherd' Jumble... (see below)

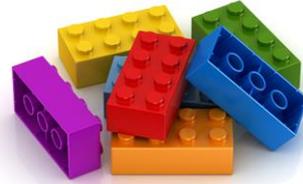


- ✚ Complete the colouring page - 'Jesus is my Good Shepherd'...



Build Together...

- Using Lego or other building blocks - build a field with sheep and a shepherd. Talk about what Jesus meant when he said, 'I am the good shepherd'.



Play Together...

Hunt the Sheep -

Draw or print out pictures of sheep. Then one person can hide them in a room, around the house or if the weather is nice, outside. Once they are all hidden, be the Good Shepherd and find the sheep. When you have found all the sheep remember that Jesus is the good shepherd, He loves us guides us to God.

Or, 'Hide and Sheep' -

Nominate a shepherd. Everyone else are sheep and find a good hiding place. The shepherd tries to find the sheep and when a sheep is found, that sheep joins with the shepherd in finding more sheep.

Remember together... (memory verse)

"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me - just as the Father knows me and I know the Father"

- John 10: 14-15

Pray Together...

Heavenly Father,
Thank you for sending your Son to be our Good Shepherd.
He gave his life for us.
Help us to follow him and trust him to protect us from evil.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

