

## ABC – Arts and the Bible for Children: Love in Action Series with Ms. Lisa

### Lesson #9 – "Lent 2022 – "I am Important to God"

**Bible Text:** *The Lost Sheep* Luke 15:3-7; *The Divine Shepherd* Psalm 23

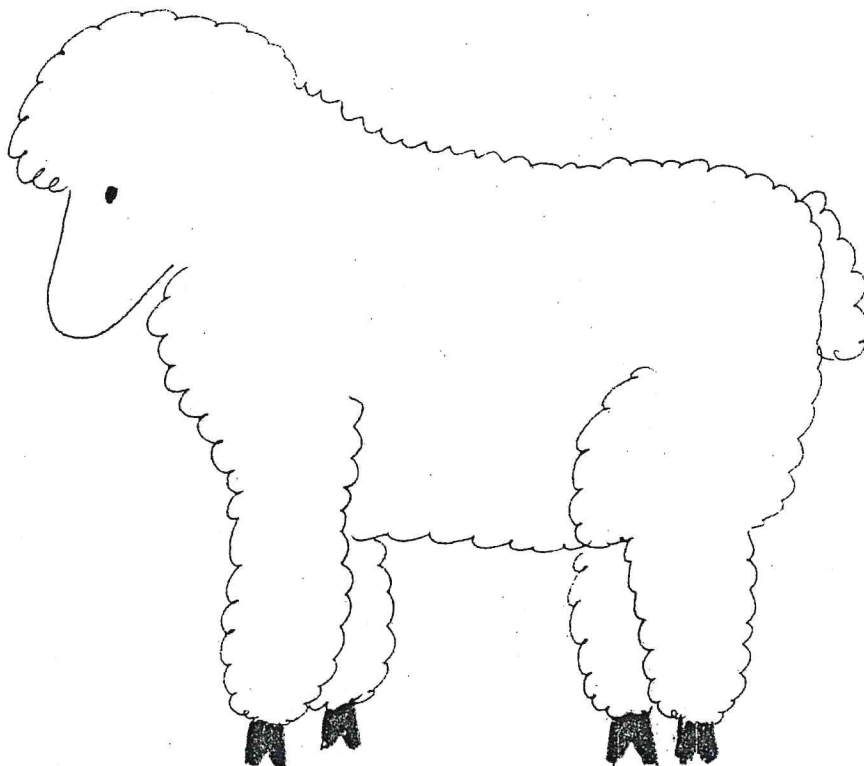
3. So He told them this parable; 4. "Which one of you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? 5. When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. 6. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' 7. Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

1. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2. The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures; the Lord leads me beside still waters; 3. The Lord restores my soul. The Lord leads me in right paths for God's name's sake.

4. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

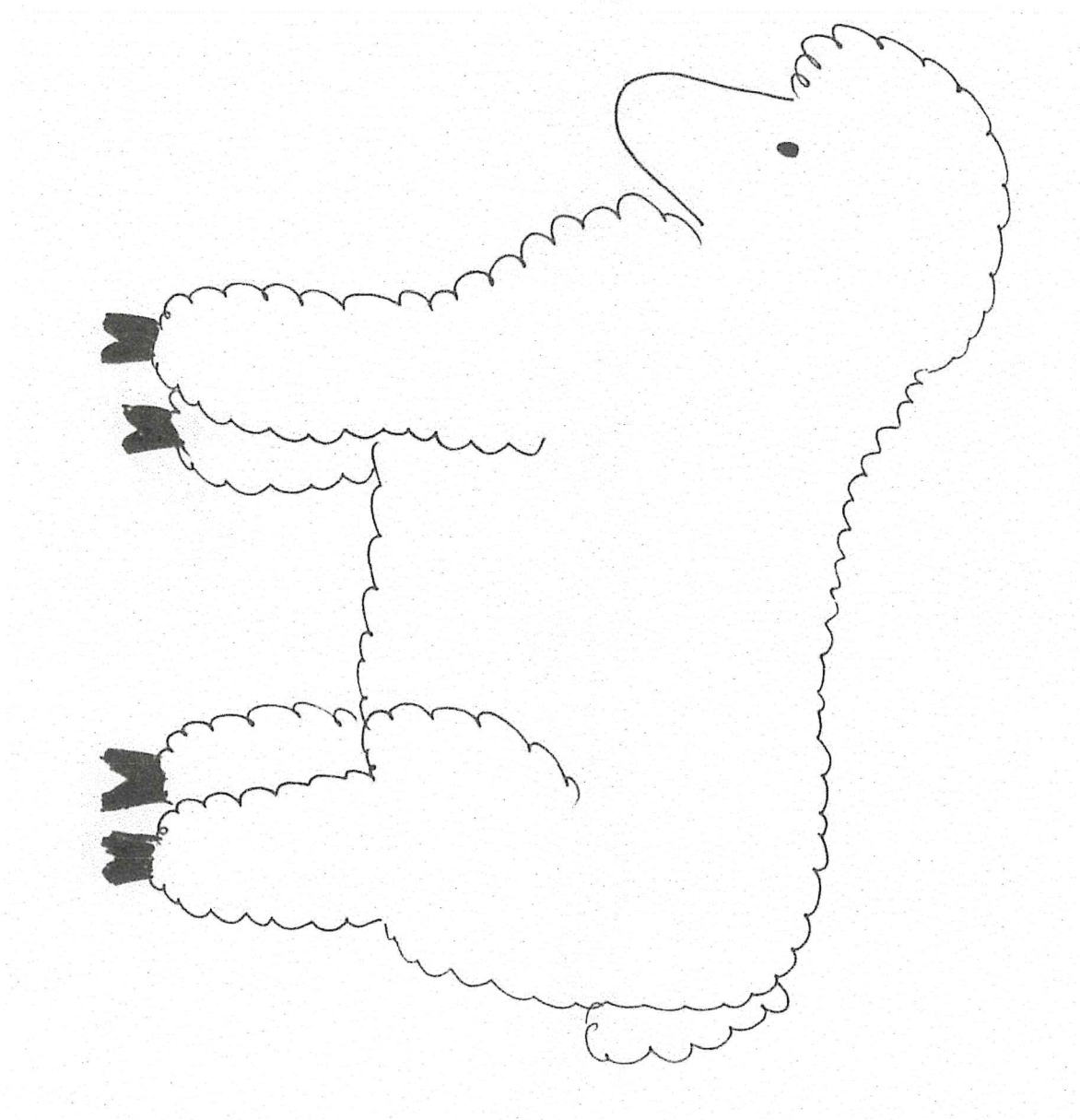
5. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

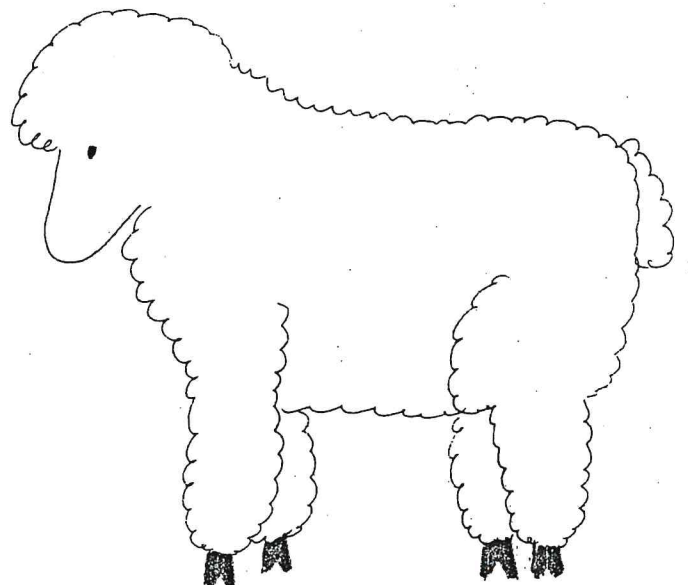
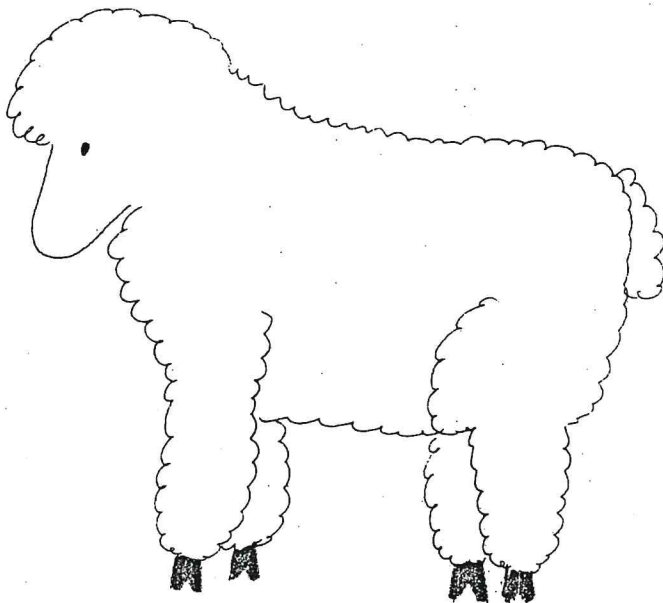
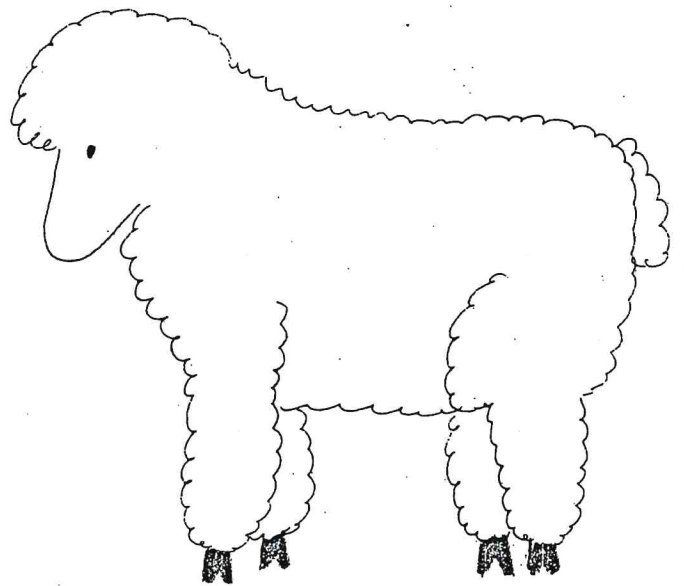
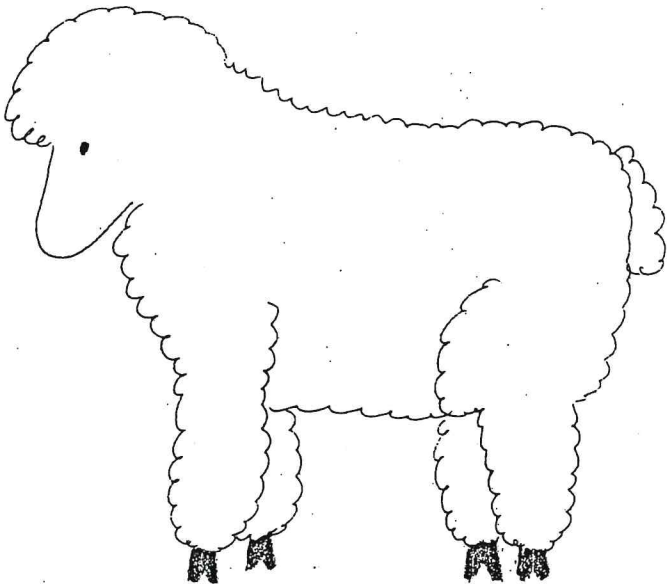
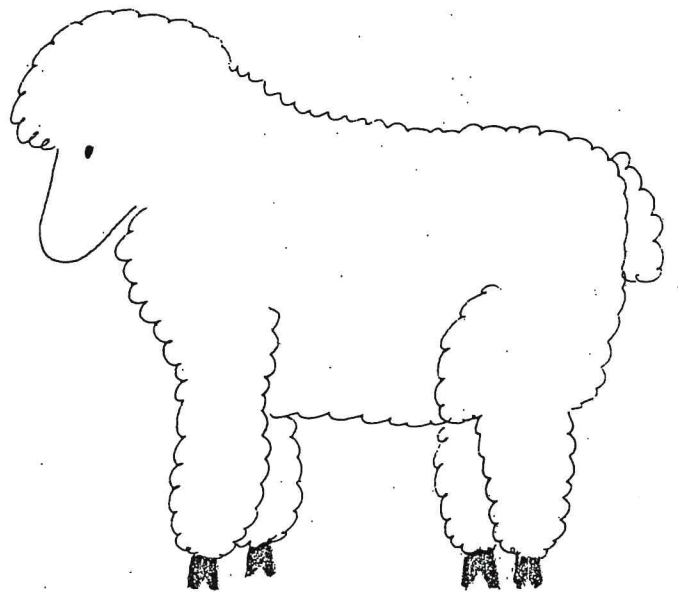
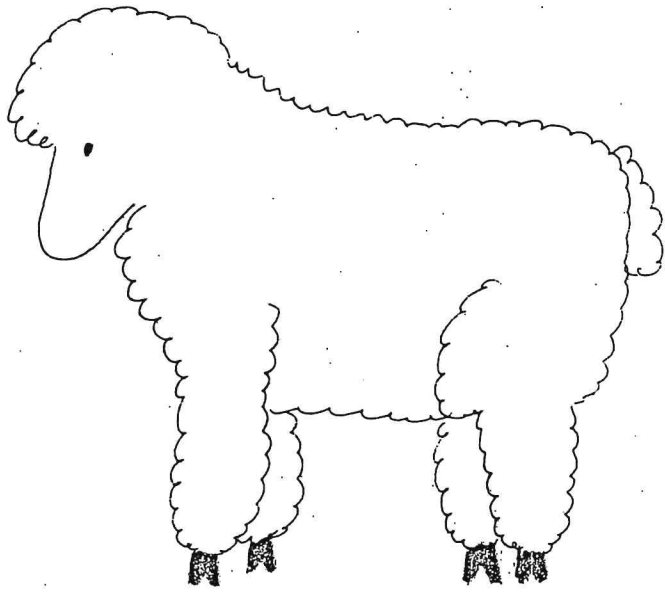
**Activities:** \*Game that fits with today's lesson – Use toy sheep OR pictures of sheep. Count the number of sheep that you have. Hide them in different places in one room of the house. Have your child/children "celebrate" each time they find one, for a moment like football players do when they get a touchdown. For older kids you can make it competitive and have only one sheep to hide. Maybe do it several times so others can "win." \*Use the page with one larger sheep or the page with several smaller sheep. Have child/children tear apart some cotton balls a little. Glue the pieces to the sheep. Let dry if you use these to hide.



Thank you, God, for caring about each one of us!

The Parable of the Lost Sheep. Luke 15:4-7





**Welcome & Prayer:** Welcome! I'm so glad you are here! I love today's story, because it tells us how much God loves each and every one of us! Let's pray: Dearest loving and mighty God, help us to remember that You are walking right to us next all the time to protect and watch over us. Help us to listen to Your loving words and instructions and follow paths where You lead us. And help us to love others the way You want us to do. In Jesus' precious and holy Names, Amen.

**Lesson:** *The Parable of the Lost Sheep*

A shepherd is a person who looks after sheep. Sheep on a farm need to be led to a pasture where there are no poisonous plants and to fresh clean water. They need care taken to their hooves and need to have their wool shaved off once a year to stay healthy. Sheep follow each other, so a shepherd is needed to lead the first sheep. A shepherd can be a boy or a girl.

A shepherd, in the Bible, is someone who watches over, looks after or guides someone. The word shepherd has come to mean a symbol of protection, power and authority. Jesus is often called the "Good Shepherd" in the Bible. So Jesus wants to protect us and uses God's power and authority to watch over us and guide us.

Lesson: Jesus told a story, parable, to teach people how much He cares for us and how much we need Him in our lives. 1) There once was a shepherd who had 100 sheep. 2) Everyday the shepherd would count his sheep. 3) One day he counted 97, 98, 99. . . One of his sheep was missing! What should he do? 4) He made sure the other sheep were safe and he went looking for the lost sheep. He looked high. 5) And he looked low. He looked everywhere he thought a sheep could hide. 6) The shepherd did not give up. He looked and looked until he found the lost sheep. The shepherd put the sheep on his shoulders and carried it back to the sheepfold where he called his family and neighbors to come and celebrate the lost sheep that had been found!

That's how God takes care of us. We are each important to God! God uses your family to help take care of you by feeding you healthy food, giving you clothes to wear, giving you a home in which to live. And making sure to go to school and learn things you need to know to get along in life. Then your family teaches you the other things to get along in life. When you trust God to help you, God will be there for you when your family can't.

**Song:** "My God is So Big" with hand motions.