

In our verses today, Jesus compares Himself to a good shepherd. What does a shepherd take care of? Yes, sheep!

Just as a shepherd guides his sheep safely where they need to go, when we choose to follow Jesus, He will lead us in the right direction. Just as a shepherd recognizes each of his sheep, Jesus knows you. He loves you just the way you are. You don't have to do anything to earn His love. And we know this is true because Jesus chose to give His life for us—just as a shepherd would willingly fight a lion or other wild animal that tries to take one of His sheep.

Grab some cotton balls, glue, a pen, and a piece of paper.

Use the cotton balls to create a sheep and write today's verse on the bottom of the page.

Hold your page and thank God for sending Jesus so that you could know Him.

Read 1 Peter 3:18

In this verse, there is one word that is repeated three times. Can you find it? Here's another hint. It starts with an "S." Write it in the blank below.

DAY 2

Who suffered? Jesus. The day Jesus was killed was the worst day in history. Jesus was beaten, made fun of, and nailed to a cross like a criminal. But Jesus had never done one wrong thing. Still, He chose to suffer, to be punished for our sins on that terrible day.

But that's not the end of the story. After Jesus' body was put to death, what happened three days later? God brought Jesus back to life! Jesus, the one who did what was right suffered for those who don't do what was right. Why? So that we can know God. That's how the worst day became the best day ever.

Use the prayer below and fill in the blanks with what you want to say:

"Dear God, Thank You so much for _____. I am so grateful You sent Your Son, Jesus so that I can know You and have a relationship with You. Please _____, amen."

Read John 1:14

Imagine the most beautiful place. A place where nothing bad ever happens. A place with unlimited soft serve ice cream and all the gaga ball you could ever play. Okay—maybe I made up the soft serve and gaga ball part. But you get the idea. Grab a piece of paper and draw what you think heaven might look like.

Now, imagine choosing to leave that place to come to a world where things aren't so beautiful. A place with sadness and hurt. A place where things happen that don't always make sense.

Would you choose to leave a beautiful paradise like that?

That's what Jesus did. Jesus chose to come to earth, to live as one of us, in a human body that can get tired, and feel loneliness and pain. Why? So we could know God. Jesus came to live on earth, to die on the cross and be raised to life again on the third day. When we choose to put our trust in Jesus, we can have a relationship with God forever.

Look at the picture you drew and spend some time thanking Jesus for choosing to leave such a beautiful place to come to earth so that you could know God.

Read John 14:7-9

There were 12 men who traveled with Jesus called the disciples. Philip, one of those 12, asked Jesus an important question. He asked, "Lord, show us the Father." Philip didn't recognize that Jesus, the one standing right in front of him, WAS God.

Jesus came to show us who God is. We can know God by looking at the life of Jesus. Because Jesus cared for others, we know that God cares for us. Because Jesus listened and helped, we know that God hears us and will help us when we need it. If you want to know God, all you have to do is look at the life of Jesus.

Unscramble the words from the verse below.

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NSEE HTE AFTHRE

Thank God for sending Jesus so that you could know Him.

DAY 4

If you want to know God

start wit

Jesus.