



## WEEK TWO - MARCH 2019 - SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *Between You & Me • Genesis 1:26-28*

**Bottom Line:** *God wants to have a relationship with me.*

**Memory Verse:** *“How you made me is amazing and wonderful. I praise you for that. What you have done is wonderful. I know that very well.” - Psalm 139:14 NIRV*

**Life App:** *Individuality - Discovering who you are meant to be*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what.*

**Summary:** Next, we take a look at a parable Jesus told in Luke 15:1-17. In the story, Jesus talks about a shepherd who leaves 99 sheep behind to search for the one sheep that was lost. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who rescues us and makes it possible for us to have a forever relationship with God.

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**8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES**

## 1. Early Arriver Idea

*Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** N/A

### What You Do:

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- This week, you'll play an opening game to allow the kids to get to know each other as they discover the things that are the same and the things that make them individuals too.
- Call out some statements that apply to you from the list below. If the kids agree or if it applies to them, they can stand up. They will sit down if they don't agree or it doesn't apply to them.
  - Ideas: left handed, wears braces, likes to get up early, doesn't like chocolate, has a cat, has a dog, likes to swim, has ridden a roller coaster, wears glasses, could eat pizza for dinner every night, has a brother, has a sister, is a twin, likes to play outside, plays an instrument, likes to eat broccoli, loves to read, has a signature dance move, has made up a secret handshake with a friend
- If time allows, select a kid to come up with a few more options to call out.

## 2. Who Has The Sheep?

*Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

**What You Need:** Cotton ball

### What You Do:

- Play a game of "Sheep, Sheep, Who Has the Sheep?" which is a take on "Button, Button, Who's Got the Button?"
- Guide kids to stand in a circle, facing inward.
- Show them how to cup their hands together behind their backs, like they're waiting for someone to put something into their hands.
- Hold up the cotton ball and tell kids that's the sheep.
- Explain how the game works:
  - You will walk around the outside of the circle and touch each kid's cupped hands.
  - When you touch a kid's hands, he should close them.
  - You will drop the cotton ball into one kid's hands. That kid should also quickly close his hands.
  - When you've gone all the way around the circle, they can bring their hands in front of them, not revealing if they have the cotton ball.
  - With all hands closed, each kid will guess who has the sheep.
  - After each kid has guessed, the kid with the sheep reveals it.
- Play the game as many times as you wish.

**What You Say:**

*(Hold up the cotton ball.) “It wasn’t always easy to find the sheep, was it? But we all gave it a try anyway. [Transition] Let’s go to Large Group to hear about someone else who finds sheep.”*

*Lead your group to the Large Group area.*

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**9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP**

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**OVERVIEW:**

**Bottom Line:** *God wants to have a relationship with me. When it comes to understanding individuality, it’s important we help kids understand that God created them to have a relationship with Him. We hope, through Jesus’ parable of the Lost Sheep, kids will start to understand God’s amazing love for them.*

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**9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP**

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**1. Where’s The Sheep?**

**[Bible Story Review]**

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** Dot stickers

**What You Do:**

- Circle up the kids and select one kid to sit in the center of the circle. He will be your “shepherd.”
- Instruct the shepherd to close his eyes as you walk around the circle. Quietly place one dot sticker on the back of one of the kids. The selected kid will be your “sheep.”
- Ask the shepherd to open his eyes and guess who he thinks the sheep is.
- If the shepherd is correct, he remains in the center to play another round. If incorrect, the sheep with the dot sticker becomes the new shepherd.
- Play several more rounds to allow as many kids to play the sheep or shepherd role as possible.
- Discuss the following questions from today’s Bible story:
  - Who does the shepherd represent in this story? (God)
  - What did the shepherd do when he realized he only had 99 sheep instead of 100? (He left the 99 behind and searched for the lost sheep until he found him.)
  - Why do you think Jesus told this story? (To illustrate just how much God wants everyone—no matter who they are or what they’ve done—to have a relationship with Him.)

**What You Say:**

*“In the beginning of today’s Bible story, Jesus was eating with some people the religious leaders didn’t like. But Jesus wanted them to know that He had come for EVERYONE. So Jesus told this story about the lost sheep to help them understand that.*

*“This is really good news for you and me. Because we can’t possibly do everything right all of the time. We might do the right thing some of the time but eventually, we won’t. We do things that are wrong. The Bible calls this sin. God sent Jesus, His only Son, to show us just how much He loves us. Because of Jesus, we can have a relationship with God. Jesus died for us to take the punishment for EVERYONE’s sin. Why would He do that? Because **[Bottom Line]** God wants to have a relationship with me.”*

***[Make It Personal]*** *(Tell the kids about how you first learned that **[Bottom Line]** God wants to have a relationship with me. Who first told you about Jesus? When did you choose to follow Jesus as your Savior?)*

## **2. Free Choice Memory Verse**

**[Memory Verse Activity]**

*Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

**What You Need:** Bibles, “Memory Verse” Activity Page

**What You Do:**

- Circle up and have the kids sit on the floor in your small group area.
- Select a volunteer to look up Psalm 139:14. Remind her that you can usually find the book of Psalms by opening to the center of your Bible.
- Select another volunteer to read the verse aloud.
- Place the “Memory Verse” Activity Page in the center of the circle for reference.
- Say the first word of the memory verse along with one motion (like a clap, a wink, a head nod, or a silly face). The kid to your left will say the next word of the verse as they perform a new motion. Continue around the circle clockwise, as each child says the next word of the verse and performs their own individual motion. They may not repeat a motion they’ve already seen.
- Continue around the circle until you finish the verse, including the reference.
- Repeat three or four more times. Make sure to select a different kid to start the verse each time.

**What You Say:**

*“I love our memory verse for this month. The individual and unique way that God made you is wonderful and amazing! There is no one in the history of the world exactly like you. And God LOVES you more than you could ever imagine. He sent Jesus to prove just how much He loves you. So remember, **[Bottom Line]** God wants to have a relationship with me.”*

## **3. Pray and Dismiss**

**[Prayer Activity]**

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** “Week Two Bottom Line Labels” Activity Page, extra “Picture Frames” from last week

**What You Do:**

- Ask the kids if they took their picture frames from last week home and hung them on their mirrors.
- Pass out a “Picture Frame” page to any kid who wasn’t here last week.
- Pass out a “Week 2 Bottom Line Label” to each kid.
- Encourage the kids to hold their sticker and read the Bottom Line aloud together: **[Bottom Line] God wants to have a relationship with me.**
- Remind them to take these labels home to add to their frame from last week.
- Close in prayer.

**What You Say:**

*“Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us and for creating each one of us in Your image so that we could know You. Help us to understand just how much You love us and how You sent Jesus to be our Savior so that we could have a relationship with You. It’s in Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”*

*As adults arrive to pick up, ask the kids to show them their Bottom Line stickers to place on their frames from last week.*