

EXPLORING GOD'S WORD

THE SHEPHERDS

A BIBLE LESSON FOR KIDS



Poet Prints TEACHING



THE SHEPHERDS VISIT

This packet was designed to be an easy way to teach foundational Bible stories to kids in first, second, and third grades. Each lesson in this series is structured the same and can be taught in about 40 minutes!

Step One: Read or watch the Bible story.

Gather your group and read the story *Shepherds Visit Baby Jesus* from your children's Bible. Would you rather watch it? Many animated Bible stories are available for free on YouTube. Try searching "The Shepherds Visit Jesus Bible Story for Kids" in the YouTube search bar. Be sure to watch it fully before showing it to your class to be sure it's appropriate.

Background Information:

Shepherds

Shepherds were considered among the lowest people in society. This means that other people were viewed as more important. So, it's interesting that shepherds were the first people to meet Jesus. This is a beautiful reminder that God doesn't care what society says about people. God views everyone as important!

Jesus would be called the Lamb of God, and the first people to visit the new Lamb were shepherds.

Do Not Be Afraid

Angels in the Bible often say "Do not be afraid" or something very similar when they first appear to a human. Understandably, people would be startled or frightened if an angel appeared.

Here are some instances: Genesis 21:8-21 (an angel appears to Hagar), Luke 1:26-38 (an angel appears to Mary), Matthew 28:1-10 (an angel appears outside Jesus' empty tomb), and Acts 27:13-26 (an angel appears to Paul).

Step Two: Explore the story.

After reading or watching the story, use the retell the story worksheet to retell the main parts of today's story. This can be done individually or in small groups. Don't want to print it out? Try mapping out the story together on a piece of large paper or a whiteboard.

The Shepherds Visit: Quickly map out the 3 main parts of the story.

- *Shepherds are in the field watching their sheep*
- *Angels appear to the shepherds*
- *The shepherds go and worship Jesus*

Then, talk through the discussion questions as a group.

THE SHEPHERDS VISIT JESUS

Name: _____

1

2

3

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS	
QUESTION #1 Why were the shepherds in the field?	QUESTION #2 What appeared to the shepherds? How did the shepherds feel?
QUESTION #3 What did angels sing?	QUESTION #4 How did the shepherds respond after the singing?

THE SHEPHERDS VISIT JESUS

Step Three: Do the craft/activity.

Before the lesson: Print the craft template on thick (cardstock) paper. Gather tape, scissors, and drawing/coloring materials.

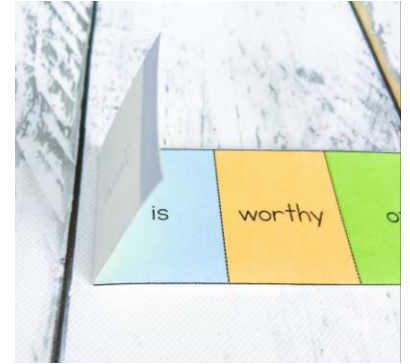
Cut out the thick strip and both sheep pieces.



Fold the thick strip back and forth in an accordion style.



Try to fold on the dotted lines. Fold over to start.



Tape the front and back pieces of the sheep to the labeled spaces on the folded strip.



Fold the strip so it hides behind the sheep.



When finished, give kids time to color!



Alternative: A blank folding strip is also included. Feel free to add your own Bible verse or key takeaway from the story.

Step Four: Finish with the take-home worksheet.

The 'Shepherds Visit Jesus' coloring page is the perfect way to wrap up the lesson and create a take-home page that includes caregivers in what you have learned. Kids will color a picture, write down their memory verse, and add the key takeaway (a "big idea") from the story.

Memory verse suggestion from the story:

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.
Luke 2:14 (NIV)

Big idea suggestion: Jesus is worthy of worship.



THE SHEPHERDS VISIT JESUS

Name: _____

1

2

3

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

QUESTION #1

Why were the shepherds in the field?

QUESTION #2

What appeared to the shepherds?

How did the shepherds feel?

QUESTION #3

What did angels sing?

QUESTION #4

How did the shepherds respond after the singing?

tape next to back of sheep

Luke
2:8-20

worship.

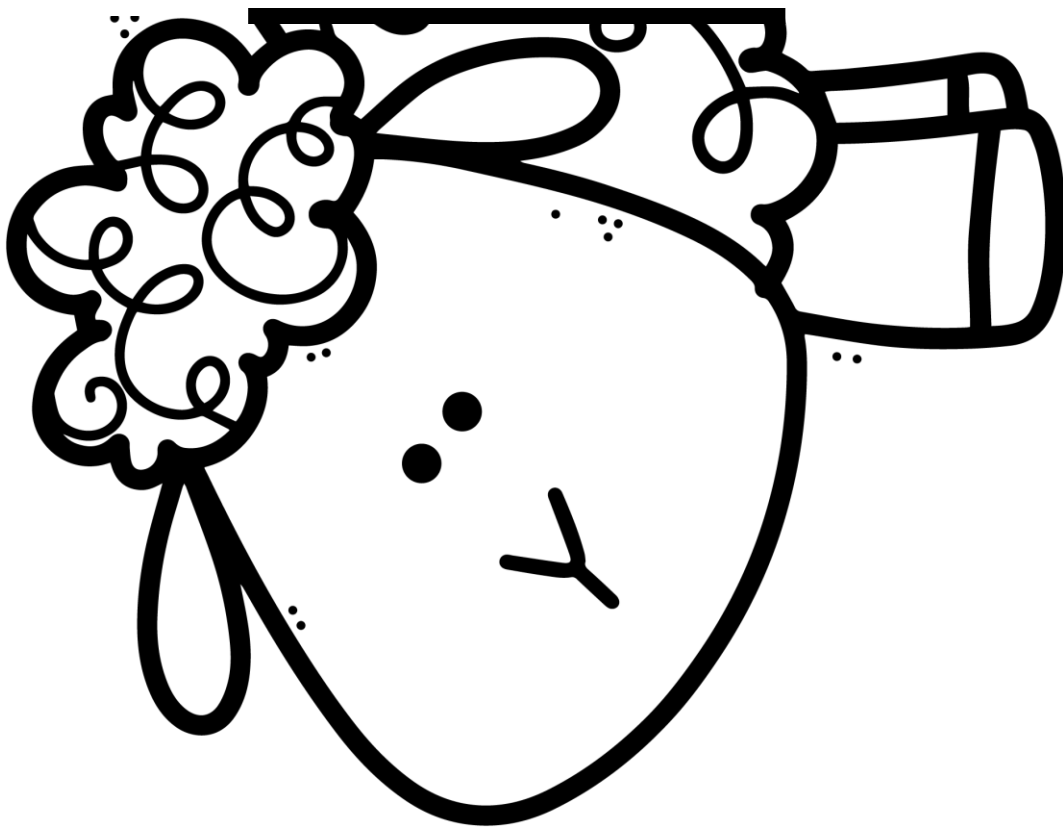
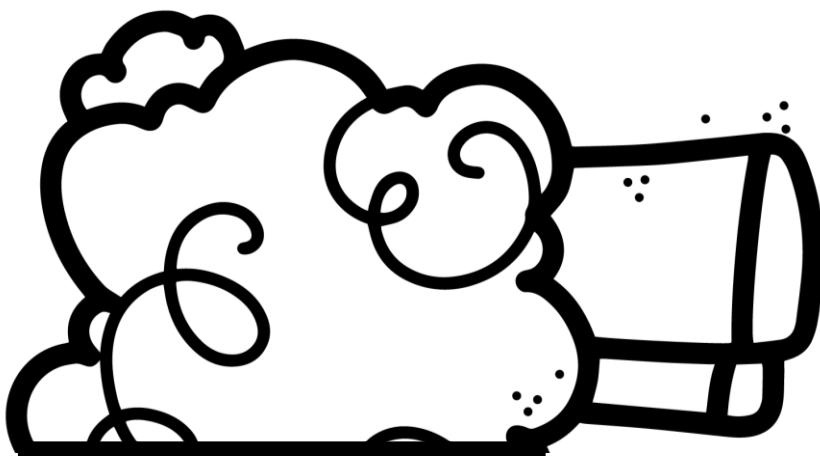
of

worthy

is

Jesus

tape next to front of sheep



Optional Blank Accordion Strips

tape next to back of sheep

tape next to back of sheep

tape next to back of sheep

tape next to front of sheep

tape next to front of sheep

tape next to front of sheep

THE SHEPHERDS VISIT



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MEMORIZE THIS:

THE BIG IDEA

What does this story teach us about God?

tape next to back of sheep

Luke
2:8-20

worship.

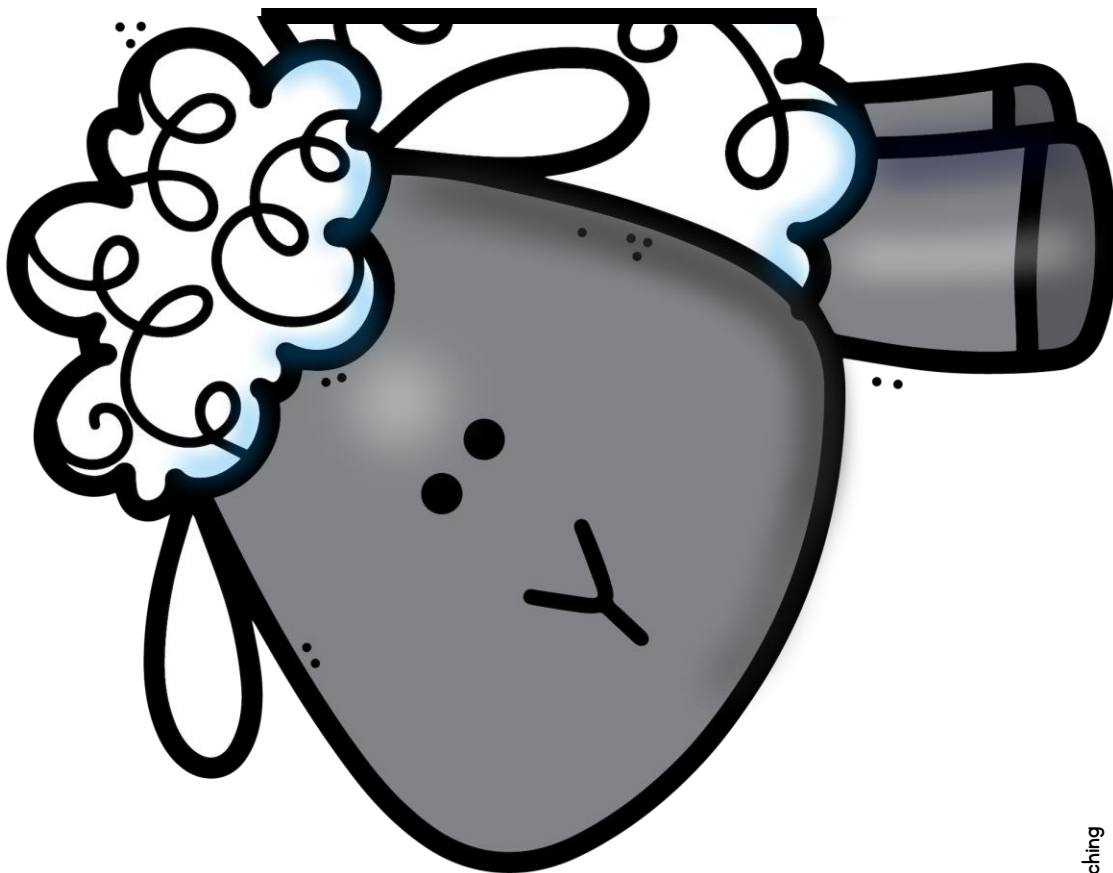
of

worthy

is

Jesus

tape next to front of sheep



THE SHEPHERDS VISIT



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MEMORIZE THIS:

Glory to God in the
highest, and on earth
peace to men on
whom his favor rests.

Luke 2:14 NIV

THE BIG IDEA

What does this story teach us about God?

Jesus is
worthy of
worship.

THE SHEPHERDS VISIT



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MEMORIZE THIS:

Glory to God in the
highest, and on
earth peace, good
will toward men.

Luke 2:14 KJV

THE BIG IDEA

What does this story teach us about God?

Jesus is
worthy of
worship.