

Adventures with GOD!

SHEPHERDS SERVED GOD (A.3.FALL.5)

Biblical Reference	Luke 2: 15-20
Key Verse	Luke 2: 15
Key Concept	I must serve God with joy and gladness.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Tell how the shepherds responded to the message of the angels.2. Explain what the shepherds did after they saw Jesus.3. Name the town where they found the baby.

LIFE APPLICATION

When Jesus was born many Shepherds received the good news from the angels and responded with joy. Children will learn today that they can be like the shepherds. Once they learn something God, encourage children to share with others. Serving God should give us much joy. During the week children will seek opportunities to share the good news of the birth of Jesus Christ with their family and friends.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Introduction	Costume	10 minutes
Bible Exploration	Bible	15 minutes
Song	Music, instruments	10 minutes
Craft	Illustration, crayons	10 minutes
Verse	Sheets,	10 minutes
Prayer/Snack		10 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

Adventures with GOD!

INSTRUCTIONS

Opening Prayer

Gather children around a candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle

Prayer: God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen

(For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Introduction: It would be a great idea if you could dress up as a shepherd. You can use a towel on your head, a sheet or large piece of fabric and use a stick as a cane. When children come into the classroom it will draw attention, so greet them warmly and when everyone has arrived, start by opening up a dialogue about the shepherds. What did the shepherds do? How did they dress? Do you think you are a shepherd? Why did you dress like this? Today we'll talk about the shepherds and many shepherds.

Bible Exploration: Always refer to the bible so that children will learn that what is written is a great way to hear His voice. Start by saying that not only Mary, Joseph, and the angels obeyed the voice of God, but that it was heard in the fields of many Bethlehem shepherds watching their sheep. They saw a great light and were amazed when the heavenly message of the angels of a large choir resounded from heaven. Upon hearing the message, they decided to obey and ran to see what happened. It is emphasized that God chose shepherds who were doing their job, perhaps they were herding hundreds of sheep to care for. God chooses servants and helpers who are always ready to obey. Emphasize that it is important that children have the same attitude to go and tell others the news of good tidings.

Song: Verse 4: “Go, tell it on the mountain,
 over the hills and everywhere.
 Go, tell it on the mountain
 that Jesus Christ is born.

Craft: Children can color and glue as shown in the accompanying drawings of shepherds then take home to share with their families about the story.

Verse: You can illustrate today's verse on separate sheets, word for word, to facilitate memorization. Your creativity and imagination can be incorporated in this section.

Adventures with GOD!

Prayer/Snack: Pray with the children by giving thanks to God the Father for using shepherds as messengers of this great news. In prayer you can ask God to use each of the children according to the purpose. Leave their minds the idea that God can use any time. How? That we do not know. Share snack and continue conversation.

Closing Prayer

Gather children around the candle again. Light the candle

Prayer: Thank you God for making us, Thank you God for making the world. Amen

Adventures with GOD!

ILLUSTRATION

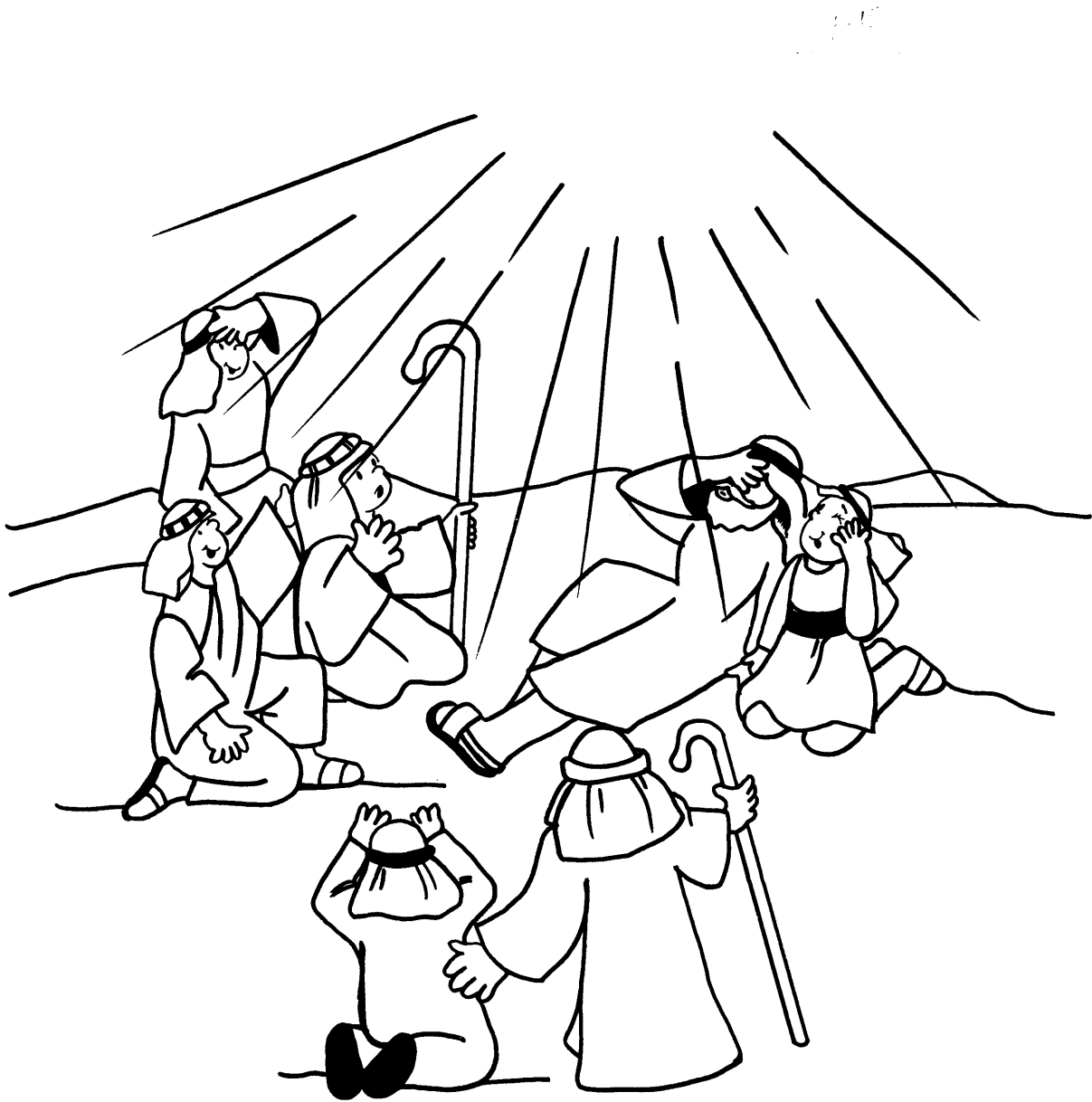
Shepherd



Adventures with GOD!

Illustration

Shepherd's listening



Adventures with GOD!

Illustration

Shepherd and his sheep



Adventures with GOD!

Illustration

Shepherd's travel



Adventures with GOD!

Illustration

Shepherds praying for Jesus



Adventures with GOD!

Craft

Make a copy for each child. Glue on paper or cardboard. Cut out and make holes in the part of the eyes. Attach ribbon on the sides of the head of the sheep so that children can use as a mask. Provide crayons, cotton, and glue to decorate the sheep.

