

Jesus is the  
good shepherd



Jesus liked to tell stories.

One day he told a story about a sheep that got lost.

Jesus said, “Shepherds have to take good care of their sheep.

What happens when a shepherd has 100 sheep and finds out that one of them isn’t with the others? The shepherd leaves the 99 sheep in a safe place and goes to look for his lost sheep. He doesn’t stop looking until he finds the sheep. It doesn’t matter how far the shepherd must go. He will continue to search for his sheep even after the sun goes down and it becomes dark.

When the shepherd finds his sheep, he is very happy!

He lifts the sheep up and carries it home on his shoulders.

Then he goes to all his friends and neighbours and tells them,

‘Let’s all be glad! My sheep was lost, but I found it and brought it home!’”

On another occasion, Jesus talked about shepherds who didn’t care about their sheep.

When a wild animal attacks the sheep, these bad shepherds run away.

They leave the sheep to look after themselves.

“I am not like that,” Jesus said.

“I am like a good shepherd. A good shepherd knows his sheep’s names.

When he calls their names, they follow him.

They know that he will take them to good grazing and water.

The sheep know he will protect them against thieves and wild animals.

A good shepherd gives his sheep a very good life.

A good shepherd will never leave his sheep. He will die for his sheep.

This is what I will do. I am the good shepherd, and I have sheep all over the world.

They all listen to my voice. I love them all. And I will die for them all.”

Some of the people didn’t understand what Jesus was saying.

They didn’t realise he was telling them that he was the Saviour, and that he was going to die on the cross.

He would do this so that his followers could become friends with God again and be with him forever.

Luke 15:1–7 John 10:11–18

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