

**What Child is This?
Week 1 – Shepherds**

Luke 2:8-18

What child is this?

He is the _____.

John 10:14-16 (NLT) “I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep. I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They will listen to my voice, and there will be one flock with one shepherd.

He is the one who will _____ for and _____ all who are under His care.

John 10:10-11 (NLT) “The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.”

He is a shepherd and a _____ just like his ancestor David.

Luke 2:11 (NLT) The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!

He is the one who left heaven to look for the ones who went _____.

Matthew 18:10-14 (NLT) “Beware that you don’t look down on any of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their

angels are always in the presence of my heavenly Father. “If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them wanders away, what will he do? Won’t he leave the ninety-nine others on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost? And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he will rejoice over it more than over the ninety-nine that didn’t wander away! In the same way, it is not my heavenly Father’s will that even one of these little ones should perish.

He is the one that _____ forever.

Isaiah 40:11 (NLT, pg. ???) He will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will carry the lambs in his arms, holding them close to his heart. He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young.

Final Thought: _____ (NLT) The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever.

What Child is This Week 1
Discussion Questions

What are you looking forward to the most this Christmas season? The challenge given for this series is to look at the Christmas story with fresh eyes. Is this an easy thing to do? Why or why not? Why do you think this is something worth doing? Explain.

There are shepherds all throughout the Bible (most famous one is David), and flocks are used to describe wealth and blessing a lot in the Old Testament (example: Job 42:12). Even church leaders and pastors are given the job description by Jesus to be like shepherds (John 21:15-17). Has this example lost any meaning because of our culture today? Why or why not? Can you come up with a modern example that would work better?

Read John 10:1-21. Why do you think Jesus chose to use sheep and a shepherd as an illustration? This parable is full of great stand out verses and concepts. Which one stands out to you the most and why? Re-read John 10:19. Why do you think this was the case? Do we see the same reaction to Jesus today? Why or why not?

Psalms 23 is perhaps the most famous poem in scripture; and it was written by David – a shepherd. What is so powerful about it? How could memorizing this psalm help you in your journey?