

# The Good Shepherd

ART PRINT 22

## GRADE 1, UNIT 5, SESSION 22

Catechist Guide page 131

**Faith Focus:** Jesus cares for us like a shepherd cares for his sheep.

### OUTCOMES

- ▶ Tell the story of the lost sheep.
- ▶ Describe how Jesus is the Good Shepherd.
- ▶ Explain that God's love is greater than any sin.



**About the Artist** Philippe de Champaigne (1602–1674) was born in Brussels, Belgium. He first studied art with landscape painter Jacques Fouquières. In 1621 he moved to Paris, where he decorated the Palais du Luxembourg. He later worked for the Queen Mother—Marie de Medicis—and Cardinal Richelieu. One of his most celebrated paintings, made in 1662 and seen today at the Louvre, shows his daughter with Mother-Superior Catherine-Agnes Arnault. He made this work as an *ex-voto*, an offering in fulfillment of a vow, after his paralyzed daughter was miraculously cured at the nunnery of Port-Royal. Philippe de Champaigne died in Paris at the age of 72.

**Art-i-facts** *The Good Shepherd* is an example of Baroque art. Baroque art is a term that describes an artistic style that originated in Rome at the beginning of the 17th century. The Council of Trent (1545–1563) had strongly advocated pictorial clarity and narrative relevance in religious art. Baroque developed as a result. For the Catholic Church, the Baroque style inspired architecture and artwork that worked together to invite the faithful to more fully experience Scripture and the lives of the saints. Over time Baroque artwork and buildings could be seen throughout Europe, in both Catholic and secular settings. In this painting Jesus is portrayed as the Good Shepherd who carries home the lost lamb.

## CATECHIST DIRECTIONS

### 1 Begin

After completing page 131 in the Children's Book, display the Art Print.

Briefly introduce and discuss the artwork, using information from About the Artist and Artifacts.

Ask: **Whom do you see in this painting? (Jesus)** Tell children that this artwork shows Jesus as a shepherd. Ask: **What does a shepherd do? (takes care of sheep)** Say: **Where Jesus grew up, being a shepherd was a very common job. Shepherds took good care of their flocks of sheep, protecting them from danger, feeding them, giving them shelter, and keeping them together so that none got lost. Like a shepherd, Jesus takes good care of us. He protects us from harm, feeds us through the Eucharist, and keeps us together as God's family.**

Invite children to reflect on the artwork and to pray a silent prayer asking Jesus to always be our shepherd. After the prayer say: **Let's talk more about Jesus as the Good Shepherd.**

### 2 Connect

Have children turn to page 234 in their books. Read aloud the introduction and discuss the question. Point to the Bible in the prayer center and say: **Listen carefully and follow along as I read a story from the Bible.** Read aloud the title and the first two paragraphs of the story, pausing so that children can imagine. Ask: **How do you think the shepherd felt when he lost one of his sheep? (worried, frightened)** **How can you tell he cares for this sheep? (He left the others to look for it.)**

Read aloud the rest of the story. Ask: **How do you think the shepherd felt when he found the sheep? (happy, excited, relieved)** Say: **When the shepherd lost his sheep, he was worried. This is how God feels when we don't follow him or do what he asks of us. He is happy when we say we are sorry and follow him again.** Ask: **How do we get lost? (by sinning; by not doing what is right; by not obeying God's rules)** **How does God feel when he finds us and we follow his rules? (happy)**

Read aloud the activity directions and allow time for children to complete the maze. When children have finished, invite a volunteer to share the correct path through the maze. Afterward, remind children that Jesus loves us and wants us to always be close to him.

### IF TIME ALLOWS

If time allows, complete one or more of the activities below.

#### Expression: Movement

**Role-Play the Story** Organize children into groups of five or six. Choose one child from each group to be the shepherd. Give each group a few minutes to develop a skit that portrays the story of the lost sheep. Invite each group to act out its story. Then pray together: **Dear Jesus, thank you for guiding us, protecting us, and leading us home. Amen.**

**Time:** 15 minutes  
**Materials:** none

#### Expression: Art Studio

**God Is Our Shepherd** Invite children to make a lamb from air-dry clay. Have them add small balls of clay to represent wool and use plastic utensils or small art tools to add details. Say: **Show your family your sheep. Tell the story of the lost sheep. Describe how Jesus is our shepherd.**

**Time:** 15 minutes  
**Materials:** air-dry clay, plastic utensils or small art tools

#### Expression: Using Imagination in Prayer

**Recorded Scripture** Ask children to get comfortable and close their eyes if they wish. Invite children to listen carefully and imagine. Play the Recorded Scripture Story of Luke 15:3–7, "A Lost Sheep" [*Finding God* Grade 1 CD 1, Track 5]. When the passage is over, encourage children to respond to what they heard. The script for this Recorded Scripture Story is on page T-265.

**Time:** 10 minutes  
**Materials:** CD player, Recorded Scripture Story "A Lost Sheep" [*Finding God* Grade 1 CD 1, Track 5]

For your convenience, the Children's Book page is reproduced below.

EXPLORE  
ART PRINT  
22

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Art Print 22 shows Jesus as the Good Shepherd. What can you do when you have turned away from God and are lost?*

## The Good Shepherd

Jesus told a story. He said,

Imagine you are a shepherd.  
You have 100 sheep.  
One gets lost.  
You leave all your sheep.

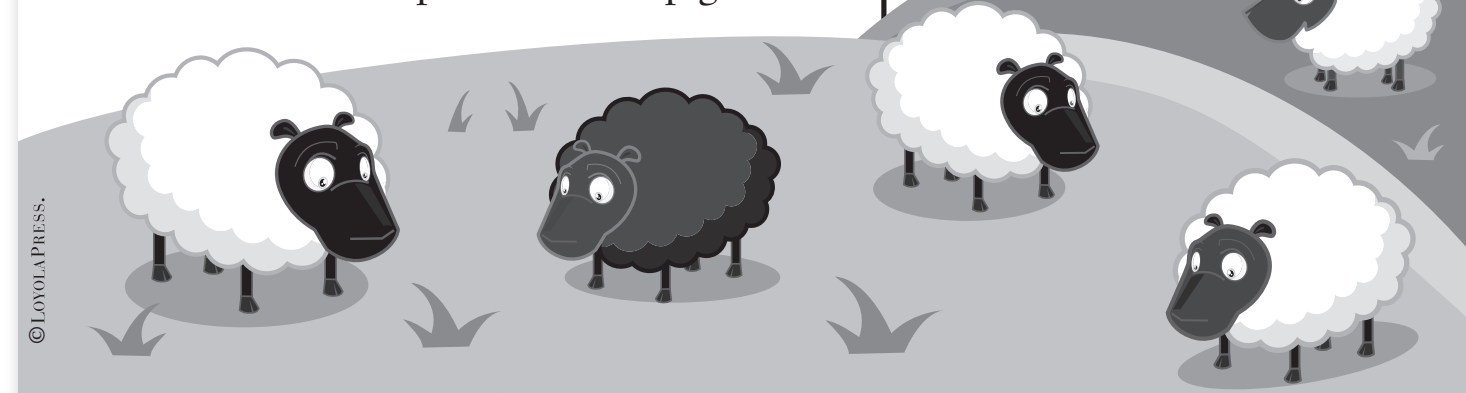
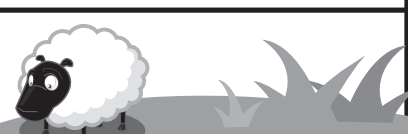
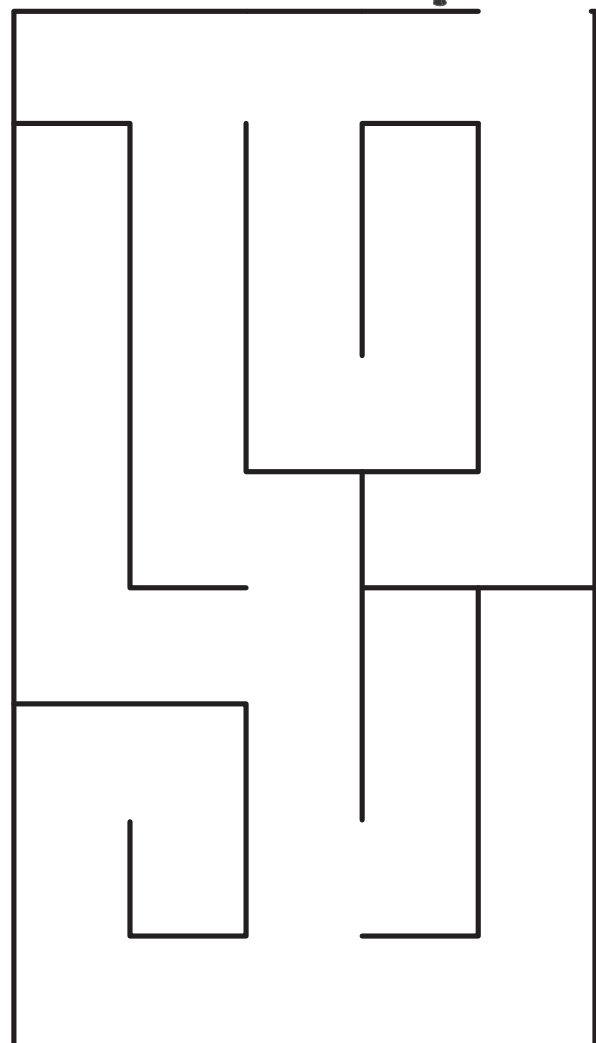
You go to look for the lost one.  
You look everywhere.  
Then you finally find it.  
You are so happy!

You carry the sheep home carefully.  
You tell everyone that you found  
your lost sheep.

A person who does something wrong  
is like that lost sheep.  
All of heaven is happy when that lost  
sheep is found.

*adapted from Luke 15:3–7*

Draw the correct path through the  
maze to help the lost sheep get home.





# The Good Shepherd



**Philippe de Champaigne, circa 1650–1660.**