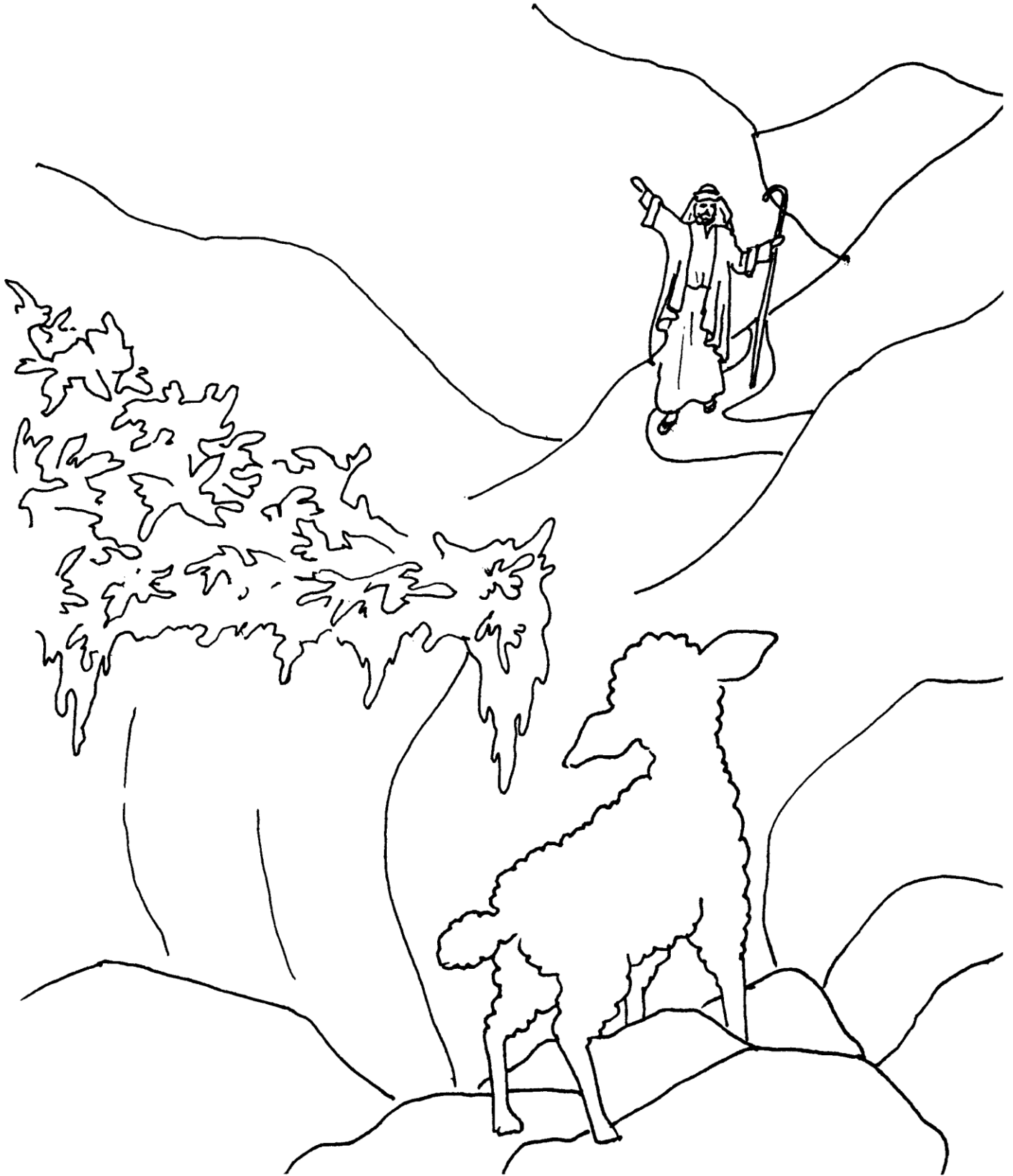


Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 203: THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP
MATTHEW 18:10-14

"Be careful. Don't think these little children are not important. I tell you that these children have angels in heaven. And those angels always see the face of My Father in heaven. The Son of Man has come to save those things that are lost. So, what do you think? If a man has 100 sheep, but one of the sheep has wandered away and is lost, what will he do? He will leave the other 99 sheep on the hill and go look in the mountains for the lost sheep. Right? And if he finds the lost sheep, he is happier about that one sheep than about the 99 sheep that were never lost. I can assure you, in the same way your Father in heaven does not want any of these little children to be lost.

203. THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

MATTHEW 18:10-14



"The man rejoices when he finds the lost sheep." *Matthew 18:10 – 14*

203. THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SHEEP

MATTHEW 18:10-14

MEMORY VERSE:

"For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost." MATTHEW 18:11

Review Questions

True or False

1. Be careful and don't think that these little children aren't important.
2. I tell you that in heaven their parents always see the face of My Father in heaven.
3. The Son of Man has come to save those things that are lost.
4. If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away and is lost, he leaves the 99 sheep on the hill and goes to look in the mountains for the one that was lost.
5. When that man finds the one lost sheep, he is sadder about that one sheep than about his other 99 sheep that were not lost.

Questions

1. What did Jesus say that little children's angels in heaven always see? Is it the face of God (Jesus' Father?)
2. What has the Son of Man come to save? Is it those who are lost?
3. When a man has 100 sheep, and one is lost in the mountains, what does he do?
4. If the man finds his lost sheep, is he happy? Is he more happy to find that one sheep than he is about the 99 who weren't lost?
5. Is it God's will that any little children are lost?

Lesson 203 Activity

The Despised Gift

Wrap as many small packages as the number of children in your class. Inside each gift put something completely worthless, like a paper clip, a rock, or a stick. Wrap one gift so that it is noticeably shabbier than the rest (maybe use a cut-out piece of a brown paper bag to wrap it), but put a small toy or prize inside, or a piece of candy – make it something they children will all love!

Have each child in your class draw a number from one to the number of children in your class. Allow number one to choose a gift from the pile. Allow number two to take another gift from the pile or to take number one's gift. Allow number three to take a gift from the pile or number one's or number two's gift. Proceed in this manner until all of the gifts have been taken. Make sure they don't open their gifts until all gifts have been chosen!

Have the children open their gifts. Probably, the shabbily wrapped parcel was the least favorite. If so, explain to the class that there is great value in even the least desirable looking "package." Explain that Jesus loves all people, even the smallest, seemingly insignificant, child. [Children are precious to Jesus!](#)

Those who consider children precious, who have time for them, are showing the love of Jesus. That is considered great in His eyes. [Children are precious to Jesus.](#)

The parable of the sheep that went astray is Jesus' way of telling you that He came and died on the cross to save you from being lost. We are all like that lost sheep until we ask Jesus to save us. Are you still a lost little lamb today? Jesus is seeking you. All you have to do to be found and rejoiced over by Jesus is believe in Him and say,

"Jesus, I know I am lost in my sin and in need of your saving power and your forgiveness. Please rescue me. I want to be found by You. I want to walk with You from now on, like a sheep with its Good Shepherd."

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of thanksgiving for seeking each of us until we were found. If any children have not responded to the gospel, give them an opportunity to do so.