

THE ISLAND

LEADER	DATE (am) 28 September 08
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

- **SERIES / LESSON:** Children of the Bible / David, the shepherd boy
- **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** 1 Samuel 16; 17:12-20; 17:34-35
- **CONCEPT:** God wants me to help others

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To help kids realise that God looks at our heart, not our outward appearance.
- To challenge kids to use their gifts and abilities to help others.
- To lead kids into a prayer time and help them understand that God listens.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ DVD player / laptop / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Song DVD
- ✓ Treasure Chest – with the ‘leprous powder’ inside (from last week’s story)
- ✓ Sheep / lamb soft toy
- ✓ Map or globe
- ✓ David graphic
- ✓ Harp picture (e.g. magazine cutting or picture in a music encyclopedia)
- ✓ Harp music excerpt (something you may have or can borrow, on a CD or in mp3 format to play through your laptop)
- ✓ Prayer Net
- ✓ Prayer cards and pen
- ✓ Name tag box

<p>A. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together. (<i>This is the Day / I Am Not Forgotten</i>) 3. Open in prayer. 4. Ask kids to lift a mat each and sit down. 	<p>You'll need ... <i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i></p>
<p>B. Message 15 minutes</p> <p>1. Recap (2-3 minutes) Ask a child to help you open the treasure chest and take out Naaman's 'leprous powder' which you placed there last week. Ask for someone to explain the significance of the powder and why it was so serious for Naaman. Recap last week's story of the little girl who helped Naaman by asking a few follow-up questions. Finish by eliciting the Bible concept: God wants me to help others.</p> <p>You could also ask if anyone remembers last week's memory verse and have them recite it, individually and as a group. Or refer kids to the verse if you displayed it following the last session – <i>"This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another."</i> 1 John 3:11</p> <p>2. Set the scene Boys and girls, I have brought a friend today. His name is Lucas and he is a lamb. Here is Lucas. Lucas lived with Mummy Sheep and Daddy Sheep and lots of other sheep in the fields near a town called Bethlehem, in Israel. We looked for Israel last week on our globe – can you find it again this week? (<i>Allow kids to find Israel</i>)</p> <p>Lucas the lamb and the other sheep did not stay alone in the fields. There was a young man who looked after the sheep. His name was David (<i>show picture of David on screen</i>). He made sure that Lucas and the other sheep stayed on the right path and didn't fall down or get into trouble. David was a strong, brave boy who loved God, and he was a very good shepherd. In fact, one day, a lion got into the field and tried to take Lucas the lamb away for his dinner, but David went after the lion, killed it, and rescued little Lucas from the lion's mouth! Another day, a bear sneaked into the field to steal Lucas' mummy ... David, the strong, brave shepherd, hit the bear and killed it, and Lucas' mummy was safe! Was David scared of the lion and the bear? Probably! But David knew that God was with him and would help him to keep the sheep safe.</p> <p>3. Tell the story One day, when David was in the field with Lucas and the other sheep, he got an important message from his daddy to go home as quickly as possible because they had a very special visitor called Samuel. Do you remember we heard about Samuel two weeks ago – how his mummy took him to live at the church and how he heard God calling his name? This was the same Samuel, only now he was an old man.</p>	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Treasure chest with the 'leprous powder' inside (from last week's story)</i></p> <p><i>Sheep/lamb soft toy</i></p> <p><i>Globe / map</i></p> <p><i>Graphic – David portrait</i></p>

Samuel was still listening to God, and God had told him to find a man to be the next king of Israel. So Samuel had come to Bethlehem, to David's daddy's house. David had seven older brothers, and Samuel thought that one of these seven must be the next king. *(Choose seven boys to line up for you to look at and pass by as Samuel may have done.)*

Samuel looked at the first son and thought, 'I think this must be the man God wants to be king.' But God said no. He told Samuel not to look at how tall and strong this son was because God looks at the heart – He would choose someone who loved God and had a good attitude. So, Samuel looked at the second son, but he said, "The Lord has not chosen this one either." (1 Samuel 16:8) Then Samuel looked at the next son, but God didn't want him to be king either. Samuel looked at all seven of the sons, but he said, "The Lord has not chosen these." (1 Samuel 16:10). Old Mr. Samuel asked the young men's daddy, "Are these all the sons you have?" Their daddy answered, "There is still the youngest, but he is tending the sheep." (1 Samuel 16:11) Samuel told them to send for David the shepherd boy ...

When David arrived home, he was surprised to see old Mr. Samuel there with his daddy and his brothers. When Samuel saw David walk through the door, God told him, "He is the one." (1 Samuel 16:12) HE IS THE ONE! HE IS THE ONE! *(point at David's picture on the screen)* David, the shepherd boy, is the man God wants to be the next king of Israel! A shepherd king?! *(say this in an unbelieving, confused tone of voice)* You see, God was looking at the hearts of all the sons and He could see that David loved Him and would be the best person to rule His kingdom. Little David knew that God loved him and had special plans for his life.

David had to wait for a long time before he would become king, so he continued to take good care of Lucas and the other sheep in the fields in Bethlehem. One day, he got another message to go home to his daddy's house.

This time when David arrived home, there was a messenger from the king, King Saul. King Saul was not feeling well. Sometimes he got terrible headaches and felt very sad. King Saul liked music, and he thought that some good music might help to make him feel better. One of the king's servants said that he had seen a young shepherd who knew how to play the harp. *(Check that children know what a harp is. Show a picture if you like.)* This shepherd boy was very brave, he could fight animals, he could speak well and was a good-looking young man, and God was with him. So young David, the shepherd boy, took his harp and went to work for King Saul at the palace.

Optional: Do you know what harp music sounds like? Have you ever heard a harp being played? Let's sit quietly and listen to some harp music, and think about how it makes you feel. *(Play an excerpt of harp music for the children.)* ... Did you like it? Did it make you feel more relaxed and peaceful?

Harp picture

Harp music excerpt

<p>The King liked David very much. Whenever King Saul felt sad and his head was sore, David would take his harp and play, and King Saul felt better.</p> <p>4. Explain</p> <p>God was always with David, when he was a shepherd boy in the fields, when he went to work for King Saul in the palace, and many years later when David eventually became the new king. God saw that David was a good boy with a good heart. God saw that David took care of Lucas and the sheep, fighting off the lion and the bear and protecting the sheep from danger. God saw that David cared for King Saul and helped him to feel better by playing lovely music on his harp.</p> <p>Just like God took care of David and had a special plan for his life, God is always with you and me, taking care of us. He loves us and He has special plans for our lives too, but He wants us to love Him and trust Him every day. We can show God's love by being good to other people. We can also tell God that we love Him by praying and singing. That's what we're going to do next ... but before we do, let's put Lucas the lamb into the treasure chest. We'll open it again next week and see how much you remember about Lucas the lamb and David the shepherd boy.</p>	<p><i>Treasure chest</i></p>
<p>C. Prayer Net 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask a child to explain what it means when we <i>pray</i> – We talk to God and He listens. 2. Explain that prayer / talking to God is very important because that's how we get to know Him. 3. Choose a child to retrieve the prayer net. Lift out the prayer cards you put there last week. Ask the kids for updates on those situations. 4. Explain that when we have worries or things to be thankful for, we need to tell God about those things. Remember that He hears all our prayers and He will answer us – maybe not with the answer we want, but He always knows best. 5. Tell kids that we are going to make a note of some special prayers today and put them in the prayer net. Next week they will tell us what happened in those situations. 6. Ask a few kids if they have a prayer to put into the net. As they tell you, write their name and the topic of their prayer on a small card. Ask the child to say a prayer aloud (help them to do so) before they place their card into the prayer net. 7. Finish by leading a prayer for the whole group. 	<p>You'll need ... <i>Net (with last week's prayer cards)</i> <i>Small cards / postcards</i> <i>A pen</i></p>
<p>D. Conclusion (with puppets) 5 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Challenge kids to remember to be like David – ready to help other people with our gifts and talents, and ready to do the job God has for us. We should always try to do our best for God. 2. Remind kids to come back this evening. 3. Sing a closing song. (<i>I Am Not Forgotten</i>) 4. Ask kids to put their mats away and put their name tags in the box before they leave. 	<p>You'll need ... <i>DVD player / projector</i> <i>Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</i></p> <p><i>Name tag box</i></p>

THE ISLAND cont'd

LEADER	DATE (pm) 28 September 08
HELPERS	TIME (mins) 40 minutes
PUPPETEER	No. of KIDS (m/f)

GOALS:

- To encourage kids to engage in worship through singing.
- To reinforce today's Bible concept by learning a related Scripture verse.
- To internalise today's story and concept by playing two games based on the sheep and shepherd relationship.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✓ Song DVD / DVD player / projector / screen, etc.
- ✓ Bible
- ✓ Memory Verse Slide (John 10:27)
- ✓ Sheep soft toy
- ✓ Games – sweets
 - Balloons – enough for one per child (inflated, with faces, legs, tails etc. drawn on in permanent marker to look like sheep)
 - 2 chairs
 - 2 rolled-up newspapers or magazines secured with tape to act as shepherds' staffs
- ✓ Small prizes (selection of bookmarks, stickers, pencils, etc.)
- ✓ Name tag box

<p>E. Worship through Music (with puppets) 10 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome kids and invite them to praise God by singing. 2. Sing 2 songs together. (<i>This is the Day / I Am Not Forgotten</i>) 3. Open in prayer. 4. Kids should remain standing for the following activity. 	<p>You'll need ... DVD player / projector Song DVD (Hillsong Kids – Supernatural)</p>
<p>F. Memory Verse (with puppets) 10 minutes <i>"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."</i> John 10:27</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask kids to stand in a circle. 2. Ask a few questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Who was the boy in our story today? <i>David</i> - What was his job? <i>He was a shepherd</i> - What does a shepherd do? <i>Takes care of his sheep; protects them from danger; leads them to safety; gives them food and water; etc.</i> - What special job did God have for David? <i>David would be the next king of Israel. He played the harp for King Saul.</i> 3. <i>Explain:</i> The sheep in the field knew who David was. They knew that David was their shepherd and that he would take care of them. They knew the sound of his voice, and they went where he told them to go. In the Bible, we read that Jesus is like a shepherd, and we are like his sheep. 4. Look at what Jesus says in this Bible verse. <i>Display the complete verse on screen.</i> 5. Repeat the verse a few times as a group. 6. Tell kids to take a good look at the verse on the screen because it's about to disappear! 7. <i>Explain:</i> No one can talk unless they are holding Lucas the lamb! I am going to say the first word of the verse as I hold the sheep. I will then pass the sheep to the first child in the circle, who will say the second word of the verse. The sheep should be passed around the circle, and each child should say the following word of the verse while they hold the sheep (before they pass it to the next person), until the verse is complete. 8. You can repeat the game to allow every child to participate. 9. <i>Explain:</i> Like a shepherd, Jesus wants to take care of us. He knows what's best for us. He can protect us from danger and evil things. If we follow and trust Jesus, like sheep follow their shepherd, Jesus promises that one day we will see Him in heaven. He loves us very much, just like David loved and cared for his sheep in Israel all those years ago. 10. Finish with a group repetition of the verse. <p>Idea: After the session, you could display the memory verse on a poster in your room. This will add to your decoration as well as reminding kids of the Bible concept. Then you can also refer to it in later sessions of this series.</p>	<p>You'll need ...</p> <p><i>Memory verse slide (John 10:27)</i></p> <p><i>Sheep / lamb soft toy</i></p>

<p>G. Activity 15 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask kids to move into a space on the floor. 2. Game 1: Shepherd Says – (~5 minutes) Tell kids that this game is just like ‘Simon Says’. Tell them that you are the shepherd, and they are the sheep. They must listen to your voice and watch you, and copy everything you do as long as you begin your instruction with ‘shepherd says’. If you simply say ‘do this’, or you say nothing along with your action, the kids should not copy you. Have a trial run to make sure everyone understands before you begin for real. Have your helpers watch for mistakes. Once a child makes a mistake, they must sit on the floor. Keep going until you have a winner, or for as long as time allows. Reward the winner(s) with sweets for being good sheep who listen to their shepherd! 3. Game 2: Gathering Sheep Balloons – (~10 minutes) Set up two chairs at one end of the room to act as the gateway into the sheep pen. Have kids line up in pairs behind your start line at the other end of the room. Tell kids that they are now the shepherds, and these balloons are their sheep. 4. Show them the shepherds’ staffs (rolled-up papers) and tell them that they must try to get their sheep into the pen with the other sheep. Important! No one is allowed to hit the sheep! If anyone hits a sheep they will have to sit out of the game! Demonstrate how the kids should use the ‘staff’ to create an airflow to propel the sheep balloon towards the pen. 5. Set down 2 sheep balloons, one for each kid in the first pair at the start line. At your signal, they can start to ‘guide’ their sheep. 6. Once they have successfully got the sheep into the pen, they must run back to give the staff to the next child in their team. 7. Repeat steps 5 and 6 until every child has participated. 	<p>You’ll need ...</p> <p>Sweets</p> <p>Balloons (inflated, with sheep faces/ears/legs drawn on) 2 chairs 2 rolled-up newspapers / magazines</p>
<p>H. Conclusion (with puppets) 5 minutes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask one boy and one girl if they can recite the memory verse. The puppets / another leader will judge if they deserve a prize. Award the prizes. 2. Ask kids to hold hands and sing <i>Jesus Loves Me</i> (first verse and chorus) <i>a cappella</i>, or with an instrument if preferred. 3. Close in prayer. Remind kids to come back next week! 4. Ask kids to put their name tags into the box before they leave. 	<p>You’ll need ...</p> <p>Small prizes – bookmarks, stickers, etc.</p> <p>Name tag box</p>