

Bible Lesson

3. Shepherds Share the Good News

Luke 2



The shepherds spread the news about this child, and all who heard it were amazed.

Luke 2:17-18

Shepherds Share the Good News

All was quiet outside of Bethlehem. In the dark fields, shepherds petted their soft, sleeping sheep. A fire kept them warm. An angel of the Lord appeared. The shepherds shook with fear.

Many angels joined in. It was like an army from heaven. The angels glowed brightly in the night. They sang the joyful news about Jesus. "A Savior has been born! He is Christ the Lord."

The angels praised God, saying, "Glory to God in the highest. On earth, let there be peace."

The angels flew back to heaven.

"Let's see what happened," the shepherds said. They ran to Bethlehem. There they found Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus. It was all true!

The shepherds told everyone, everywhere the good news of great joy. "A Savior has been born! He is Christ the Lord."

All who heard it were amazed.

Questions

1. What did the shepherds do with the great news?
2. What are ways people hear about Jesus today?
3. How did you hear the good news about Jesus?
4. How can you share this good news?

Pray this Prayer:

Dear Jesus,

You are my Savior. I give you glory. Help me spread this wonderful news. I would like to share the joyful news like the brave shepherds did. Help me tell it to these people I care about:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Story S-t-r-e-tch-ing 3. Shepherds Share the Good News

Show students where the story is in the Bible. Use the Bible references above the illustration.

Before you read:

1. Activate Prior Knowledge

- Has anyone come to you with good news? What was it?
- Did you share that same news with anyone else? Why?
- What news do you think the shepherds got and shared?

After you read:

Telephone Game

Write down this phrase from the story but don't show it to anyone yet: "A Savior has been born! He is Christ the Lord." Everyone sits in a circle. The first child whispers those sentences to one child who whispers it to the next and all the way around the circle. Compare what the last child says to what is written. Did the news change?

The Global Good News

Ever since the shepherds told the good news with their mouths, Christians have been sharing their faith by any means possible. List as many ways as you know to communicate on a marker board. Ask how they can use that form of communication to tell others about Jesus. On your smart phone or iPad, download an amazing, free app called "You Version The Bible for Kids." You'll love the animated Bible stories and follow-up games. Share it with your friends!

Candy Cane Poem

Photocopy the Candy Cane poem on the next page onto card stock so that each child gets a page. They cut out the poems. Wrap a red and white candy cane with curly green ribbon and attach it to the poem on the next page. Keep one and share the news with someone else. These make a great addition to Christmas cards if you buy the tiny candy canes.

Share a candy cane together with a poem.

The Candy Cane



This candy cane's a yummy treat
Because it tells a tale so sweet.
Upside-down, that's the way.
Jesus' name starts with a "J."
Flip it back. It makes a hook.
It looks like a shepherd's crook.
We are the lambs under his care.
His love protects us everywhere.
The stripes that wrap around this cane
Tell us the reason that he came.
His back was whipped to pay the price
For all the times we've not been nice.
Red is the blood that Jesus gave.
If we believe, we will be saved.
The white looks like the falling snow.
It's Christmas and our hearts now glow.
So when you lick this tasty story
You get a little glimpse of glory.

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Make Christmas Cards

People in America like to share the good news about the birth of Jesus with Christmas cards. Fold some paper in half. Draw a picture of baby Jesus and write a key verse from the passage on the inside. Give it to a friend who may not know the story. Or use some of the art below to decorate your Christmas cards.

