

# The Lost Sheep

By

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## Theme:

This play conveys the fact that Jesus commanded us to go after those in the world who need to hear the Gospel message. It is so easy for us to get caught up in taking care of fellow Christians that we neglect those who need to develop a relationship with Christ and accept Him as their Lord and Savior.

## Biblical Reference:

Matthew 18:12-14; Luke 15:3-7

## Approximate Running Time:

10-15 minutes

## Cast of Characters:

Shepherd: A typical Bible shepherd complete with long flowing robe and walking stick.

Sheep 1: A sheep who has a funny personality.

Sheep 2: A sheep who likes to complain.

Sheep 3: A sheep who likes to get a lot of attention.

Sheep 4: A sheep who is a hypochondriac.

Sheep 5: A sheep who is lost.

Notes: The sheep can refer to each other as their true names or use ones they make up.

All of the bold lines are to be said with a sheep baa voice.

Scene: The interior of a sheep pen. The four sheep are in the pen acting as sheep when the shepherd enters to tend to them.

Shepherd: How are we my little sheepies tonight?

Sheep 3: **Good.**

Sheep 4: **Pretty well.**

Sheep 2: **Okay I guess.**

Sheep 1: I can't complain. I got water. I got grass. All I need is to get milk and I'll be all set. Get it? **Got** milk? What else could a little sheep like me **ask** for?

Sheep 2: I don't care for milk. If you asked me I think the water you bring to us could be a little **colder**. I once read that colder water is better for sheep. It cools them down and it's important for sheep to be cool when they're carrying around a heavy blanket everywhere they go. Is there a way to get some ice into it or some sort of refrigeration device into the pasture?

Shepherd: I'm not sure that would be possible.

Sheep 3: I like the water just the way it is. And, by the way, thanks for all the time and effort you put into our lives. I really appreciate it. You spend day and night at our side. You don't go to **sleep** until you're sure that we're all settled down for the night. You don't eat until you know that we're all chomping away at...

Sheep 1: Yeah, yeah, we get it **already**. He doesn't eat until we're eating. He doesn't sleep until we're sleeping. He doesn't graze until we're grazing. We get it.

Shepherd: [*To sheep 4.*] How about you? Are you comfortable tonight?

Sheep 4: I'm feeling a bit under the weather. I'm not sure if it's the hot days, which are so **hard** on my **heart**, or the cool nights, you know that my circulation isn't what it used to be and my hooves get so **cold** at night. I agree with Sheep 2, I think colder water would be a lot better. I might help my aches and pains. It's not **easy** to walk around all day with all this wool on our backs.

Sheep 1: You're complaining isn't what it used to be either. You used to be sick once or twice a day, not it's at least five or six times a day. Oh, my **bad** back. Oh, my **bad** hooves. Oh, I've fallen and I can't get up. Oh, my cute little ears. I'm sick of hearing how **sick** you are.

Shepherd: Settle down. Not everyone is as hearty as you are.

Sheep 4: I'm as hearty as he is - maybe even **hardier**. I've been down this path in front of us three hundred and eighty times. I've been in this **herd** for more than eight years and I've **been** sheared 18 times. I demand more respect. The shepherd things that I'm one of the **best** sheep in the flock, don't you?

Shepherd: Yes, you're all important to me.

Sheep 2: Nobody tells me that I'm important to them. They all avoid me. It's like I have hoof and mouth disease, or **mad** sheep disease, or **bad** body odor or something?

Sheep 1: Nah, it's not your body odor that's **bad** - it's your **bad breath**.

Shepherd: You're important to me whether or not you have bad breath or bad body odor. That's the way that God made you and I'm going to love you just the way you are.

Sheep 3: You're such a nice shepherd. You're so caring and loving and nice to **be** around.

Sheep 2: Not like the last shepherd we had in this flock.

Sheep 1: Talk about someone who needed to make a career change. That shepherd would be a great traffic cop. He was so **bossy**. He was always yelling at us and telling us what to do.

Sheep 4: Is it just me or is it getting cooler now that the sun has gone down?

Sheep 1: It's just you.

Sheep 4: My ears are starting to get frostbite. I wonder if **frostbite** can spread to other parts of your body once you get it in your ears.

Sheep 1: It sounds like you've got frostbite on the **brain**.

Sheep 2: Do you think this is a safe place for us to be tonight? I've heard that there is a wolf around here and I'm afraid he'll find us and **eat** us for a snack.

Sheep 4: I can't think that would be good for my health. I'm so afraid of wolves. Do you think there really is one around here?

Shepherd: I haven't seen one and I haven't spoken with anyone who's seen one around here. I think we're safe. Besides, I'm here to watch over you as you sleep.

Sheep 1: Remember, he doesn't go to sleep until he's sure we're all **sleeping**?

Sheep 3: Isn't he a great shepherd. He's so caring and **nice** to us. What would we do without our shepherd, our **buddy** our pal?

Sheep 1: We'd probably **be** lost in the woods.

Sheep 2: Speaking of lost, where is sheep 5? Has anyone seen sheep 5?

Sheep 3: I haven't seen sheep 5 all day.

Sheep 2: I haven't noticed. It's a lot quieter around here without Sheep 5 **bleating** around me.

Sheep 4: He always gives me a **headache**.

Sheep 2: You always give me a headache.

Sheep 1: I always knew there was something wrong with both of your heads.

Shepherd: Nobody's seen Sheep 5 today?

Sheep 1: Not me.

Sheep 2: No, not me.

Sheep 3: I haven't **seen** him.

Sheep 4: I didn't even notice that he was gone until you **mentioned** it.

Shepherd: [*Standing and looking around.*] Sheep 5, here sheep 5, come here little sheepie. Where are you sheep 5? I don't see him anywhere. You guys stay here and keep an eye on the rest of the sheep.

Sheep 4: Where are you **going**?

Shepherd: I'm going to find sheep 5.

Sheep 3: What **about** us?

Shepherd: You'll be fine here. You're already home. Sheep 5 needs someone to help him.

Sheep 2: But isn't that **someone** else's job?

Shepherd: No, that's my job.

Sheep 1: But you're supposed to take care of us **too**, aren't you?

Shepherd: Yes, but you're already safe and sound here in your home and sheep 5 is out there somewhere else. I've got to go and find him.

Sheep 2: So, you're saying that sheep 5 is more **important** than we are?

Shepherd: Right now, yes he is. Wouldn't you want me to do the same for you if you were the one that was lost out in the woods?

Sheep 3: I guess so.

Shepherd: You'll be okay. I'll be back soon.

*[Shepherd exits through the audience while calling sheep 5.]*

Sheep 3: Can you still see him **over** that hill?

Sheep 4: Nope. He's gone.

Sheep 1: We're all alone.

Sheep 2: This stinks. We're here all alone without our shepherd and we're supposed to take care of the rest of the sheep. What kind of a **shepherd** do we have anyway?

Sheep 1: I don't think its **right** for him to leave us alone.

Sheep 3: Do you think we should call the sheep protection agency on him and report him as a **bad** shepherd?

Sheep 2: Something should **be** done about it.

Sheep 4: Oh, oh, I feel sick. I **want** my shepherd.

Sheep 2: Come on, I don't need to hear your **whining**.

Shepherd: *[Coming into the auditorium and then back out again.]* Sheep 5, sheep 5, where are you sheep 5? Here sheep 5. *[Exits.]*

Sheep 3: Oh, there he is again. I wonder if he's coming **back** to take care of us.

Sheep 4: It's about time. I can't believe it's taken him so long.

Sheep 2: I wonder if he **found** sheep 5 or if he's given up on him.

Sheep 1: If he's given up on him I sure hope that you're the next one that gets **lost** in the woods.

Sheep 3: That's not very nice to **say**. I hope none of us ever get lost in the woods.

*[Shepherd enters in the back of the auditorium with sheep 5 draped over his shoulders - if possible.]*

Sheep 4: There he is. I see him coming **over** that hill.

Sheep 1: Does he have sheep 5 or did he **leave** him for the wolves?

Sheep 3: That's not very nice to say. Maybe you should be **left** for the wolves.

Sheep 2: I'm just glad they're **both back**. I feel much **safer** now.

[Shepherd and Sheep 5 return to the fold. Everyone is excited to see them.]

Sheep 1: It's great to **see** you.

Sheep 2: I can't believe you **found** him.

Sheep 3: We were so **worried** about you.

Sheep 4: Where did you find him?

Sheep 5: You won't believe what happened to me. We were down in the third meadow and last time we were there **Bob** showed me where there was this great **pool** of cool water that's off the **beaten** path so this time I thought I would go off on my own to see if I could find it by myself. I started to go into the **wrong** part of the woods and I fell down a steep path. I rolled and I bounced and I tripped and I fell all the way to the bottom of the path and I got all caught up in a **briar** patch. No matter how I tried to move I couldn't. I was stuck.

Sheep 1: **What** did you do?

Sheep 5: I cried as **loud** as I could. I cried and I cried and I cried.

Sheep 4: How's your throat?

Sheep 5: It's a little sore. Anyway, I **cried** until the shepherd found me.

Shepherd: I wouldn't have heard him if he wasn't crying out. I saw the path that he fell down and I never would have thought to look there unless I heard him crying. I'm so excited. It is so great to find a lost sheep. I mean, you guys are great, but you were okay here in the fold. Sheep 5 was out in the cold, the rain, and where the bears and the wolves and the lions could have gotten to him.

Sheep 3: Oh my, I didn't realize that there were lions in these woods. Now I'm really **scared**.

Shepherd: You guys settle down. We've all had a busy day and we need some rest for tomorrow. I've got to tell the other shepherds how great it is to find a lost sheep!

[He exits.]

Sheep 1: It really is great to have you **back** with us.

Sheep 2: I'm glad I wasn't the one out there **alone**.

Sheep 3: It must have been great to have that one on one time with the **shepherd**.

Sheep 4: I just hope that you don't catch **pneumonia**.

Sheep 5: It is great to be back with you. I'm **really** tired guys. I need to get some rest.

Sheep 1: One.

Sheep 2: Two.

Sheep 3: Three.

Sheep 4: Four.

Sheep 5: Five.

Sheep 1: Snore.

Sheep 2: Two.

Sheep 3: Three.

Sheep 4: Four.

Sheep 5: Five.

Sheep 1: Snore.

Sheep 2: Snore.

Sheep 3: Snore.

Sheep 4: Four.

Sheep 5: Snore.

Sheep 1: Snore.

Sheep 2: Snore.

Sheep 3: Snore.

Sheep 4: Snore.

Sheep 5: Snore.

Sheep 1: Snore.

Sheep 2: [*Breathes Deeply. Pauses. Then licks lips and snores.*]

Sheep 3: Snore.

Sheep 4: Snore.

Sheep 5: Snore.

Sheep 1: Snore.

Sheep 2: Snore.

Sheep 3: Snore.


Sheep 4: Snore.

Sheep 5: Snore.

*[They all keep on snoring louder and louder. After a pause...]*

Sheep 4: Awww. I'll never get to sleep with all this snoring.

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