



BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

BIG POINT

I Am Found

Scripture References: Psalm 95:7, Luke 15:1-7, Luke 19:10, John 14:6, Ephesians 2:13

TEACHING POINTS

- God says we are found
- God searches for the lost
- Jesus shared the story of the lost sheep

INTRODUCTION

Supplies needed:

- Screen image of a hedge maze from supplied files

I once visited one of those big garden hedge mazes and guess what? I got lost! I could not find my way out. Every corner I turned either led me to a dead end or in a circle back to where I was. I couldn't make my own way out, I needed someone who knew the way to find me and lead me out.

On our own, we're stuck in a maze of sin. We can't get out by ourselves we need someone who knows the way to come and find us and lead us out. Jesus not only knows the way, HE IS THE WAY. John 14:6 (NIV), "Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.""

Jesus died and rose again so that we could be saved from sin. Sin keeps us lost and separated from God but through Jesus we are found. Ephesians 2:13 (NIV), "At one time you were far away from God. But now you belong to Christ Jesus. He spilled his blood for you. This has brought you near to God."

Today we're learning more about who God says we are. I am who God says I am and God says I am found.

STORYTELLING

The Lost Sheep

Supplies needed:

- Sheep sound effect from supplied files
- A soft toy sheep (or make a sheep from cardboard and cotton balls)

(Play sheep sound effect.)

Woolly...Woolly where are you? (Look around for your lost sheep). I've lost my sheep, his name is Woolly. He's fluffy and white and says, "Baa".

(Play sheep sound effect.) That's exactly the sound Woolly makes! Did anyone hear him?



LEADER GUIDE 4-7 YEAR OLDS

LESSON

3

BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

Jesus shared lots of stories to teach people about God and He told a story about sheep.

One day a group of tax collectors and people who were known to do the wrong thing gathered around Jesus to hear Him teach. They all jostled to get in close so they didn't miss a word.

The religious leaders stood nearby and whispered to one another, "What is Jesus doing hanging around with people like that?". "Doesn't he know what kind of people they are? He welcomes them in and even eats with them!"

Jesus said, "If one of you has 100 sheep but one was lost, what would you do?"

(Play sheep sound effect.)

"Wouldn't you leave the 99 in the field and go looking for the one that was missing? Wouldn't you go after the lost sheep, looking everywhere until you found it?"

(Play sheep sound effect.)

"And when that one sheep is found you would scoop it up and lift it on your shoulders and carry it home with great joy! A man that finds his lost sheep would call his neighbours and friends together to celebrate saying 'Be joyful with me I have found my sheep!'"

(Play sheep sound effect.)

Everyone agreed and Jesus said, "I tell you, it is the same in heaven. There is a great outburst of joy and celebration when even just one sinner turns from sin, when one lost person is found. There will be more joy in heaven for that one than the 99 so called 'Godly' people who think they don't need to turn away from their sin."

Jesus went on and told more stories about lost things. A lost coin that a woman searches high and low to find and a lost son who returned home to his father's embrace. In each story there was such joy and celebration when lost things and lost people were found. God searches for lost people who are far off from knowing His love and when they are found all of heaven rejoices.

Now if I could only find my lost sheep! (Play sheep sound effect.) I'm sure I can hear him!

(Play sheep sound effect.) There it is again! Woolley, Woolley, where are you? Can you all help me find my lost sheep and call out his name? (Encourage the children to say, "Woolley, Woolley".)

(Play sheep sound effect, look around for your lost sheep and find him.)

There you are Woolley! You were lost and now you are found. We searched everywhere to find you and now you're found, we are SO HAPPY! Everyone cheer together, YAY! We found Woolley!

God searches for the lost so they can be found. I am who God says I am and He says I AM FOUND.



LEADER GUIDE
4-7 YEAR OLDS



BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

OBJECT LESSON/WRAP UP

Supplies needed:

- Sheep mask (use the template provided for 4-7yr old activity in this lesson)

We're learning that we are who God says we are. Now, you might look in the mirror and think you're a child but did you know we are also sheep! The Bible says we are sheep!

(Put on the sheep mask) Baa Baa! Do I make a good sheep?

The Bible says Psalm 95:7 (NIV), "He is our God. We are the sheep belonging to his flock. We are the people he takes good care of." God searches for those who are lost and He calls them FOUND, we are like lost sheep who have been found by God. Jesus died and rose again so we could be saved from sin and found by God. I am who God says I am and He says I AM FOUND.