

saint mary's press

The
Catholic Children's Bible

The Good Shepherd

Big Book



Valerie Ellery

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The Catholic Children's Bible**The Good Shepherd****Big Book****Table of Contents**

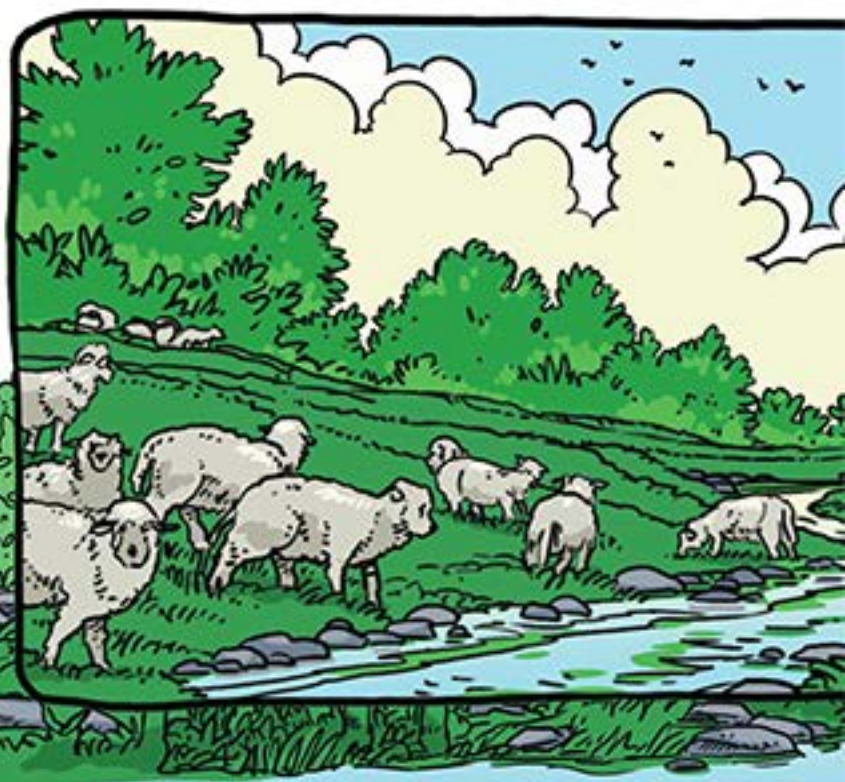
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See John 10:1-18 in *The Catholic Children's Bible* for the full story.

The Parable of the Shepherd

Once Jesus told a **parable**. Jesus shared a story that teaches a lesson.

He said to the people: "There once was a **shepherd** who took good care of his sheep. He loved his sheep! The sheep loved him as their shepherd."



The shepherd **protected** his sheep from harm. The shepherd would tell his sheep, "I am here for you!"

The sheep **trusted** their shepherd.

The sheep were kept in pens at night. Each day the shepherd would enter the sheep's pen by the **gate**. He would call the sheep out by name.





Glossary

- flock** – a group or herd of animals; a crowd of people
- gate** – a point of entry; a symbol of Jesus as the Way to full life
- hired** – a person paid to work for someone else
- parable** – a story from everyday life that is used to make a point or teach a moral lesson; a method of teaching used by Jesus
- protected** – someone or something guarded and kept safe
- scatter** – to chase off in different directions
- shepherd** – a person who takes care of sheep; someone providing guidance for others
- stranger** – an unfamiliar person; someone you do not know
- thief** – a person who steals; a robber
- trusted** – believed in or having had faith in someone or something

Recommended:

Tell It! Cards

Reinforce comprehension with *The Catholic Children's Bible Tell It! Cards*.



1 Jesus Is the Good Shepherd

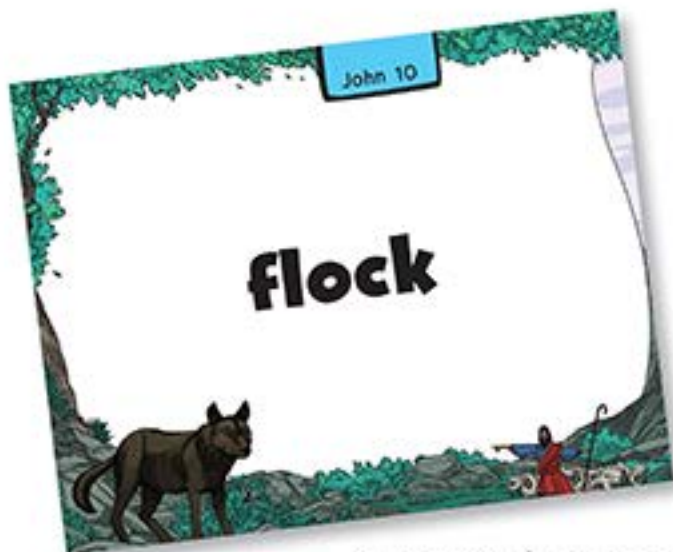
John 10

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Vocabulary Cards

Build vocabulary using *The Catholic Children's Bible Vocabulary Cards*.



a group or herd of animals;
a crowd of people

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The Good Shepherd

Big Book

Level: 2.9

Word Count: 593

Reading Level Correlations:

Guided Reading: L

DRA: 26


Lexile®: 750L

2 3

The Parable of the Shepherd

Once Jesus told a **parable**. Jesus shared a story that teaches a lesson. He said to the people: "There once was a **shepherd** who took good care of his sheep. He loved his sheep! The sheep loved him as their shepherd."

The shepherd **protected** his sheep from harm. The shepherd would tell his sheep, "I am here for you!" The sheep **trusted** their shepherd. The sheep were kept in pens at night. Each day the shepherd would enter the sheep's pen by the **gate**. He would call the sheep out by name.




4 5

The Voice of the Shepherd

The shepherd called: "Come my little sheep, follow me!" The shepherd would go before the sheep so they could follow him. The sheep would listen all day for their shepherd's voice. The sheep knew their shepherd would keep them safe.

Once there was a voice the sheep did not know. The sheep cried: "Boy, boy! Oh no! This is not the voice of our shepherd. We must run away!" The sheep would not follow the voice of the **stranger**. The sheep knew that the stranger's voice could be the voice of a **thief** or robber.



6 7

Jesus Is the Good Shepherd

The people did not understand the parable Jesus told them. Jesus explained the parable to the people. He helped them make the connection. Jesus said, "The people are the sheep and I am their shepherd. I take care of my sheep. They know my voice, and they follow me."

Jesus said: "I am not like the **hired** man who works for pay. When a wolf comes to **scatter** the sheep, the hired man runs away. I do not run away when danger comes. I stay with my sheep always."






8 9

Jesus Is the Gate

When the sheep enter the pen through the gate, they are safe. The sheep are thankful for the gate. Jesus said: "I am the gate. If the sheep come through me, they will find full life."

Sometimes sheep lose their way. They cannot find their way back home. Just like a shepherd, Jesus goes after every lost sheep. He wants every lost sheep to be saved and find true life with him.

10 11

The Good Shepherd's Love

Jesus said: "I know my sheep and they know me. I love my sheep. I love my sheep so much that I am willing to die for my **flock**."

Jesus loves his people. Jesus will pursue his people when they are lost because he wants to demonstrate that he is the Good Shepherd.

We follow Jesus. We belong to the Church. We can be like Jesus. We can help people who are lost, lonely, homeless, or hungry. We can be kind to those around us. We can love all the people Jesus loves!




12 13

Glossary

flock - a group or herd of animals; a crowd of people
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hired - a person paid to work for someone else
parable - a story from everyday life that is used to make a point or teach a moral lesson; a method of teaching used by Jesus
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thief - a person who steals a robbery
trusted - believed in or having full faith in someone or something

Guiding Comprehension Questions

Literal Questions

- What does a shepherd do?
- What is the thief trying to do?
- Who is the Good Shepherd?

Implied Questions

- What is a parable?
- What does it mean to "know the shepherd's voice"?
- Who is our Good Shepherd?

Applied Questions

- How can we protect ourselves from evil influences?
- Whose voice do you need to know? How can we listen to Jesus the "Shepherd's" voice?
- How are you like the sheep?