

# I Can Tell Others About Jesus

## LOWER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

**Theme:** Telling the Christmas story to others

**Scripture:** Luke 2:8-20

**Memory Verse:** Luke 2:10 - 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.'

## The Children's Sermon

Hey, kids! Today, we're going to talk about a very special story. It's about Jesus, and how even today, we are supposed to tell others about Him. You know, some kids and even some grown-ups don't know that Christmas is actually Jesus' birthday. That's a big reason why we celebrate!

Imagine if it was your birthday and some of your friends didn't know. You'd want them to know so they could celebrate with you, right? Well, it's the same with Jesus' birthday. We can tell others why Christmas is so special. Just asking them why we celebrate Christmas is a great start. If they don't know it's Jesus' birthday, you can tell them!

You can even share the Christmas story with them, so they can learn about Jesus, too. Now, let's dive a bit deeper into this story, especially about some very special people called the Christmas Shepherds Witness to Jesus.

A long, long time ago, on the very first Christmas night, there were shepherds in the fields watching over their sheep. It was a quiet, dark night, just like any other. But suddenly, something amazing happened. An angel appeared in the sky! The shepherds

were very scared at first, but the angel said, "Don't be afraid! I have good news for you. Today in Bethlehem, a Savior has been born. He is Christ the Lord."

Can you imagine how surprised the shepherds must have felt? They were just going about their night, and then an angel tells them this incredible news! The angel even told them they would find the baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. And then, even more angels appeared, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

After the angels left, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So, they hurried off and found Mary, Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger, just like the angel said.

Now, here's where the Christmas Shepherds Witness to Jesus really comes into play. After seeing Jesus, the shepherds didn't just go back to their sheep and keep this news to themselves. No, they were so amazed by what they had seen that they went around telling everyone about it! They shared the good news about Jesus' birth with anyone who would listen. And all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

The shepherds were some of the first people to witness about Jesus. They saw Him with their own eyes and couldn't keep it to themselves. They had to share the joy and the wonder of Jesus' birth with others. And that's something we can do, too!

You see, just like the shepherds, we can be witnesses for Jesus. When we celebrate Christmas, we're not just celebrating a holiday. We're celebrating Jesus' birthday and

the amazing love God showed us by sending His Son to be our Savior. And that's something worth sharing with everyone.

You can tell your friends, your family, and even people you meet why Christmas is so special. You can share the story of Jesus' birth, just like I'm sharing it with you. And you can tell them about the Christmas Shepherds Witness to Jesus, how they saw the baby Jesus and couldn't wait to tell everyone about Him.

Remember, you don't have to be a grown-up or someone special to tell others about Jesus. You can be a witness just like the shepherds. All it takes is a willing heart and a desire to share the good news.

So, this Christmas, let's be like the shepherds. Let's celebrate Jesus' birthday by telling others about Him. Let's share the joy and the love that comes from knowing Jesus. And let's remember that the best gift we can give anyone is the good news of Jesus Christ.

## Bible Memory Verse

**Luke 2:10 - 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.'**

You Will Need:

- Construction paper (various colors)
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers or glitter (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the construction paper into large star shapes ahead of time.
- Set up a table with all the materials spread out for easy access.

Do This:

1. Give each child a star-shaped piece of construction paper and ask them to decorate it while thinking about the good news the angels brought to the shepherds.
2. Encourage them to write the memory verse on their star or around it using markers or crayons.
3. Once everyone is done, have a 'Star Show' where each child can share their star and say the memory verse. Discuss how they can be like the angels, spreading the good news of Jesus' birth to others.

## Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A simplified version of Luke 2:8-20 printed out
- Small flashlights for each child
- Star stickers
- Construction paper (blue and yellow)
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Cotton balls
- A small box or container to represent the manger
- Small doll or figure to represent baby Jesus

Get Ready:

- Cut out star shapes from the yellow construction paper.

- Prepare the small box or container by lining it with cotton balls to make it look like a manger.
- Set up a small table or area where the children can work on their crafts.

Do this:

1. **\*\*Story Time Under the Stars\*\***: Begin by giving each child a small flashlight and turning off the lights. Have them shine their flashlights upwards like stars. Read the simplified version of Luke 2:8-20 to them, emphasizing how the shepherds were watching their sheep at night when an angel appeared to tell them about Jesus' birth. Explain how they were the first to hear the good news and shared it with others.
2. **\*\*Crafting the Scene\*\***: After the story, turn the lights back on and move to the craft area. Give each child blue construction paper (representing the night sky) and the star stickers. Have them decorate their "night sky" with stars. Then, assist them in cutting out a small rectangle from the yellow construction paper and rolling it to make a simple "manger." They can glue this onto their night sky and place the small doll or figure inside to represent baby Jesus.
3. **\*\*Sharing the Good News\*\***: Once the crafts are complete, gather the children in a circle with their crafts. Explain that just like the shepherds, they can share the good news of Jesus' birth with others. Ask them to think of someone they want to share this story with (a friend, family member, etc.) and encourage them to tell the Christmas story using their craft as a visual aid. Finish by practicing together, with each child taking a turn to briefly share the story with the group, using their crafted scene to help tell the story.

## Snack Activity: Shepherd's Starry Night Snack

You'll Need:

- Round crackers
- Cream cheese
- Sliced cucumbers
- Pretzel sticks
- Star-shaped cookie cutter
- Plastic knives

Get Ready: Wash your hands and the cucumbers. Slice cucumbers into thin slices. Use the star-shaped cookie cutter to cut out star shapes from the cucumber slices.

Do this:

1. Spread cream cheese on a round cracker using a plastic knife. This cracker represents the field where the shepherds were watching their sheep.
2. Place a star-shaped cucumber on top of the cream cheese. This star represents the angel that appeared to the shepherds, telling them about Jesus' birth.
3. Stick pretzel sticks into the cream cheese around the cucumber star to represent the shepherds' staffs. Share your snack with a friend and tell them the story of the shepherds visiting baby Jesus, just like in Luke 2:8-20.

## Game Activity: Shepherd's Quest

You'll Need:

- A large open space
- Several small plush sheep or sheep cutouts
- A 'stable' area marked with tape or a small tent

Get Ready: Hide the sheep around the play area before the children arrive, making sure some are more visible than others.

Do this:

1. Divide the children into teams of shepherds. Tell them that, just like in Luke 2:8-20, they are keeping watch over their flock by night.
2. When you say 'Go,' the shepherd teams will search for the lost sheep scattered around the field. They must work together to find all their sheep.
3. Once a team has found all their sheep, they must bring them back to the stable and share a part of the Christmas story with the other shepherds (the players). The first team to do so wins.
4. After the game, gather the children and discuss how the shepherds in the Bible were excited to find Jesus and tell everyone about Him. Encourage the kids to share the story of Jesus' birth with others.

## Craft Activity: Shepherds' Story Lanterns

You'll Need:

- Clear plastic cups
- Tissue paper (blue, yellow, and white)
- Battery-operated tea lights
- Glue and paintbrushes
- Black construction paper
- Scissors
- Markers

Get Ready: Cut out small silhouette shapes of shepherds, sheep, and stars from the black construction paper. Cut the tissue paper into squares.

Do this:

1. Mix a little bit of glue with water to make it easier to paint on the plastic cup. Using the paintbrush, apply a thin layer of the glue mixture on the outside of the cup.
2. Stick the blue and white tissue paper squares onto the cup, overlapping them slightly to create a night sky effect. Let it dry.
3. Glue the shepherd, sheep, and star silhouettes onto the cup, positioning them so they look like they're under the night sky. Allow it to dry completely.
4. Once dry, place a battery-operated tea light inside the cup to light up your lantern.
5. Encourage the children to use their lanterns to tell the Christmas story of the shepherds in Luke 2:8-20 to their families and friends, reminding them of the joy and wonder of the first Christmas night.