



Lesson 2: “God’s Heart is Good and Loving”

Online Crew Club Plan

<u>Key Teaching Point</u>	God is good, and I can be his child.
<u>Key Bible Verse</u>	“See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!” 1 John 3:1 (NLT)
<u>Scripture Passage</u>	“The Good Shepherd cares for his sheep” (Luke 15:1-7, Psalm 23, John 10: 11-14)
<u>Materials</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Bible• 02: “God’s Heart is Good and Loving” Zoom slides
<u>Mystery Bag</u> (Optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A plastic animal figurine, an animal sticker, or a photo of an animal

Relate (10 minutes)

Welcome crew members.

Greet crew members as they sign on.

Icebreaker Options (choose one):

- Ask students to share their highs and lows (the best and worst things that happened to them either today or from the past week.)
- Rosebud: Ask students to share a highlight or success from the week (a rose), a challenge or disappointment from the week (a thorn) and something they are looking forward to doing or experiencing in the week ahead (a bud).
- Open a discussion with the question, “What is something you wonder about God?”

Play a game.



Choose a student and in the chat, assign them an animal. Then, they should provide two to three clues about their animal. Let students raise their hands to make guesses. The first person to guess correctly wins the round.

Mystery bag option: Students could receive the animal in the form of an animal sticker, a picture or a plastic figurine in their mystery bag for the week. Give each student a different animal.

You could also choose your own game from the [Zoom Playbook](#).



Receive (10 minutes)

Hear God's Word.

This skit will require you and your co-captain to act out this skit for your crew. The scene is a Zoom interview for a shepherd position. If possible, use a sheep pasture as a Zoom background. You will need to share your screen during the interview to show the picture of the shepherd with his sheep.

Interviewer: **Welcome to Good Shepherd, Inc. I'm {name}.**

Shepherd: **Nice to meet you. I'm {name}.**

Interviewer: **Thanks for coming in today for the interview. I see you're interested in the shepherd position. Is that correct?**

Shepherd: **Yes, I read the job description, and it fits me perfectly. I've been caring for sheep for many years at another company. See, here's me with my flock!** Share your screen and show the image of a shepherd with sheep on the Zoom slides for lesson 2.

Interviewer: **Good. You have experience. Can you tell me a bit more about that? What qualities do you have that you feel make you a good shepherd?**

Shepherd: **A good shepherd knows his sheep. He guides them along the right path. He keeps them close by and leads them. He corrects them with his staff when they get off track.** Hold up staff.

Interviewer: **Can you tell me about a time from your shepherding experience that you faced a problem, and how did you solve**



it?

Shepherd: I had 100 sheep to take care of. I loved them all! But one day I got up and when I did the head count, there were only 99! I counted again to make sure I hadn't miscounted... And I was so panicked when I realized one of my precious sheep had strayed away from the flock! You see, like I said, I love all of my sheep as if they were my children. So I searched until I found the lost one! After that, word spread about my story. You might have read about it.

Interviewer: That's a sweet story. You have a good and loving heart. Now, lastly, tell me why do you think you are the best candidate for this job of shepherd?

Shepherd: I'm the best shepherd because I love my sheep. This is not just a job to me. I really care about each one of my sheep. I make sure they receive great care and have everything they need. I help them calm down and rest. I protect them from wolves and other dangers. I love my sheep enough that I would lay down my own life to save them!

Interviewer: Well, you seem like a good shepherd to me. Thanks for interviewing today. We will be in touch with you about the job soon!

That was a fun way of introducing our story today! God tells us in his Word, the Bible, that he is like a good shepherd. He loves and cares for us like a shepherd cares for his sheep. He knows what is good for us and he guides us along the right path. He shows us what is true and good in his Word, the Bible.

Introduce the [Bible verse](#).

“See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!” 1 John 3:1 (NLT)

Close in prayer.

Engage and explore the story.

Engage crew members in a discussion:



- **What does a good shepherd do?** (They care for the sheep.)
- **How can you tell that the shepherd in the Bible story loves the sheep?** (He cares for and protects the sheep. He leaves the 99 sheep to rescue the one.)
- **What are some ways a good shepherd cares for his sheep?** (He feeds them. He makes sure they have water. He watches over their safety and health. He guides them on the right path.)
- **How does God care for you and me?** (Answers will vary. God shows us in his Word what is good for us. He provides for our physical needs as well. He loves us by forgiving our sins.)
- **How does it make you feel to know that God loves you?** (Answers will vary.)
- **How do you think we should respond to his love?** (Answers will vary. There is an opportunity to share the gospel here if the Holy Spirit leads.)



Respond (10 minutes)

Apply God's truth.

Ask,

- **Does anyone here have a pet?**
- **How do you feel about your pet?**
- **What do you (or someone in your family) do to take care of your pet?**

Optional: If you have a pet, show students a picture of your pet.

Many people love their pets and take good care of them. God's Word describes Jesus as the Good Shepherd because he cares for us like a shepherd cares for his sheep. But God's love for you and me is much greater than the love we have for our pets or a shepherd has for his sheep. Jesus gave up his life so that we could be adopted as God's children.

God created us and his love for us endures forever. God's Word calls us his children.

Pray together.

Let's spend some time praying and giving thanks to God for his goodness and his love.

Read aloud the prayer below from Psalm 136:1-9, and instruct students to repeat the refrain "His faithful love endures forever" after each line.



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who alone does mighty miracles.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who made the heavens so skillfully.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who placed the earth among the waters.

His faithful love endures forever.

Give thanks to him who made the heavenly lights—

His faithful love endures forever.

the sun to rule the day,

His faithful love endures forever.

and the moon and stars to rule the night.

His faithful love endures forever.

Take prayer requests and close in prayer.

