



## Rescuer - Family Lesson 3

**Divine Attribute:** God is Rescuer

**Heart Response:** Worship him

**Memory Verse:** John 3:16 NIRV “God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.”

### Points of Emphasis:

1. We need to be rescued from our sin.
2. God loves us.
3. God sent his Son, Jesus, to rescue us.
4. We should worship Jesus.

### Family Worship

Choose your favorite songs from the [Spotify Playlist](#) found on the curriculum resource page. Have fun, sing loudly, and follow along with the motions!

### Memory Verse

Supplies:

[Memory verse video](#)

Optional printed memory verse poster

Open your Bible to John 3:16. Show your child that this is where we find today’s verse in the Bible. Watch the memory verse video together. If you printed the memory verse poster, display it for your child to see. Practice the verse and motions with the video. Then, practice it as a family. Consider saying it in funny voices or as you stand, hop, or do other fun motions. Maybe even try making it a song!

### Bible Lesson

*\*\*Note to - the lesson is written to be read like a story. Read the bold words aloud. The words in parenthesis give direction to pause, allow for response, or read Scripture.*

Supplies:

Bible

Lesson picture - shepherds (found on [GCK resource page](#))

Flashlight

Baby doll (or something you can pretend is a baby)

Manger for the baby doll (small box will work)

Blanket or piece of fabric to swaddle the baby doll

**At Christmas, we celebrate the gift God gave us of his Son, Jesus. Last week, our story was about Jesus being born. Jesus was born in Bethlehem in a stable. Can you say “Bethlehem”? (Say “Bethlehem” with your child.)**

**Mary, Jesus’ mother, wrapped him in some cloths to keep him warm. I have a baby doll here and some cloths. Would you like to help me wrap up the baby the way Mary wrapped baby Jesus? (Let your child have a chance to help wrap up the baby doll. Then place the baby doll in the manger.)**

**When Jesus was born, there were shepherds out in the fields around Bethlehem taking care of their sheep. (Show lesson picture of some shepherds.) A shepherd doesn’t leave his sheep alone, so they were spending the night out in the fields with their sheep.**

**That night, an angel came to the shepherds in a bright light! (Shine the flashlight on the lesson picture of the shepherds as you continue to tell the story.) The shepherds were very afraid!**

**The angel said, “Do not be afraid. I bring great news! Today in Bethlehem a special baby was born. He is the one God promised would come to be the Savior of the world. You will find the baby wrapped in cloths, lying in a manger.”**

**Suddenly, there were many more angels praising God together and saying, “Glory to God in the**

highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” (Turn off the flashlight.)

When the angels had gone away into heaven, the shepherds rushed to Bethlehem, found Mary and Joseph, and saw baby Jesus lying in a manger. The shepherds worshiped Jesus.

Then, the shepherds returned to the fields praising God for sending Jesus. This is an amazing and true story about how God told the shepherds about his very special gift of his Son, Jesus. They worshiped Jesus, and we should also worship him as we celebrate the wonderful news of Jesus’ birth at Christmas. There are many ways to worship Jesus. We can sing songs about Jesus’ birth, we can retell the story to our family and friends, and we can pray and thank God for sending Jesus to be our Rescuer.

## **Prayer**

Father, thank you for sending Jesus into the world to rescue us and be our Savior. Just as the shepherds worshiped Jesus, we want to worship him, too. Help us to remember that Jesus’ birth is what we celebrate at Christmas. Amen.

## **Coloring Sheet**

### **Supplies**

[Coloring sheet](#) (found on Kids Resource Page)

Crayons

Have your child color the picture. While your child is coloring, consider asking them the review questions below. These questions can also be saved for conversations over dinner or while driving.

## **Review Questions**

1. **Who came to the shepherds in a bright light while they were watching their sheep?** (An angel.)

2. **What did the angel tell the shepherds?** (The angel said a special baby had been born who would be the Savior.)
3. **What did the shepherds do when the angels went away?** (They went to see baby Jesus.)
4. **Where was baby Jesus?** (He was wrapped in cloths in a manger.)
5. **What did the shepherds do when they saw Jesus?** (They worshiped him and told Mary and Joseph what the angel had said.)

## **Optional Additional Activities**

### **Finger Play**

Below, you will find a finger play about Jesus’ birth and the shepherds. Use this with the children to reinforce the story. Have them do the motions with you as you read the poem.

- Jesus was sent from God above,** (point up)  
**Sent to rescue because of God’s love!** (hug yourself)  
**Wrapped in cloths, laid in a manger,** (roll hands around each other)  
**God watched over and kept him from danger.** (place index fingers and thumbs together to make “glasses” and put over eyes)  
**Shepherds were watching their sheep nearby;** (place hand on brow, as if looking out)  
**Soon they saw a bright light in the sky!** (flick fingers)  
**An angel came with great news to tell!** (flap arms like angel wings)  
**Glory to God and on earth goodwill.** (place hand way up high, then low)  
**God the Father sent Jesus his Son,** (point up; hold arms as if cradling a baby)  
**To be born in the world and save everyone!** (sweep arm out and point to everyone)  
**To be our best friend, he came to forgive.** (point to yourself)  
**He loves us so much and helps us to live!** (hug yourself)

