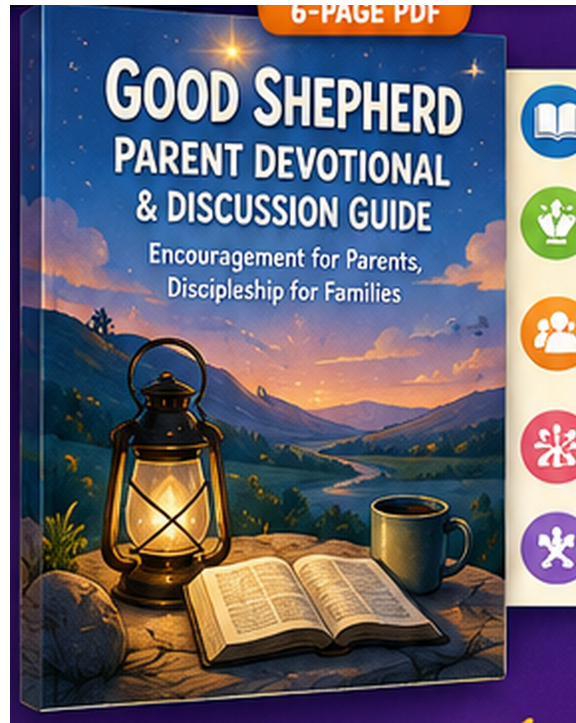




GOOD SHEPHERD

PARENT DEVOTIONAL & DISCUSSION GUIDE - 6 PAGES

"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine." - John 10:14 (KJV)

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1. Lead With the Picture

Children understand concrete pictures before abstract explanations. Start with shepherd, sheepfold, voice, door, danger, and flock; then show how Jesus uses each picture to reveal Himself.

- Ask first: 'What do you notice?'
- Keep the Bible open; let the text control the metaphor.
- Teach Scripture-first discernment rather than labeling every thought or feeling God's voice.

Parent prayer: Lord Jesus, help me teach what Your Word says with patience, clarity, and love. Help our family trust You as the Good Shepherd.

2. The Door and Salvation

John 10:9 points to Jesus Himself. Avoid turning an activity into 'solve the puzzle to earn your way in.' The game practices understanding; it does not model earning salvation.

- Say plainly: Jesus is the way of salvation and life.
- Use the sheepfold build, then return to the verse.
- Ask your child to explain the picture back to you.

Parent prayer: Lord Jesus, help me teach what Your Word says with patience, clarity, and love. Help our family trust You as the Good Shepherd.

3. Costly Shepherd-Care

The hireling contrast becomes meaningful when danger arrives. Jesus' care is not merely sentimental; John 10 connects it to laying down His life.

- Let children classify behaviors and explain reasoning.
- Correct gently: understanding matters more than speed.
- Connect John 10:11 with the cross without adding frightening detail.

Parent prayer: Lord Jesus, help me teach what Your Word says with patience, clarity, and love. Help our family trust You as the Good Shepherd.

4. Do Not Promise a Trouble-Free Life

The Good Shepherd image should not become a promise that Christians never face sickness, fear, sadness, or danger. The chapter emphasizes Jesus' faithful identity and saving sacrifice.

- When a child mentions a worry, listen before teaching.
- Pray specifically rather than promising a particular outcome.
- Reassure with what the text actually says about Jesus.

Parent prayer: Lord Jesus, help me teach what Your Word says with patience, clarity, and love. Help our family trust You as the Good Shepherd.

5. One Flock + A Weekly Rhythm

John 10:16 bridges doctrine to discipleship: Jesus gathers His people, so belonging should produce humility, patience, and care. Revisit the lesson in small pieces through the week.

- Choose one realistic kindness mission.
- Day 1 play one chapter; Day 2 reread its KJV verse; Day 3 do its family activity.
- Day 4 ask one discussion question; Day 5 review the five trail truths and pray together.

Parent prayer: Lord Jesus, help me teach what Your Word says with patience, clarity, and love. Help our family trust You as the Good Shepherd.