



# Friends of Jesus and Mary

## Cycle B – IV Sunday of Easter

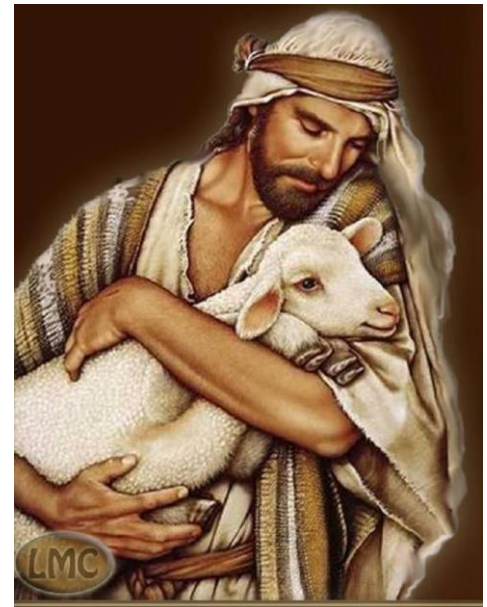
*Acts 4:8-12; Psalm 117: 1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28cd. 29; 1 John 3: 1-2; John 10:11-18*

### Jesus is the Good Shepherd

I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep. When the hired man, who is not a shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees a wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away; so, the wolf snatches the sheep and scatters them. The hired man runs away because he is only a hired man and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd. As the Father knows me and I know the Father, in the same way I know my sheep and they know me. And I am willing to die for them. There are other sheep which belong to me that are not in this sheep pen. I must bring them, too; they will listen to my voice, and they will become one flock with one shepherd. The Father loves me because I am willing to give up my life, in order that I may receive it back again. No one takes my life away from me. I give it up of my own free will, I have the right to give it up, and I have the right to take it back. This is what my Father has commanded me to do."

### Reflection

**Jesus compares himself to a shepherd. What do shepherds do?** They protect the sheep from dangerous animals; they guide them to eat in green pastures and to drink in streams, then take them back to their pen at night to sleep. If they get lost, he goes out to find them. The sheep know his voice and follow him. **How is Jesus a Shepherd?** He is always with us. When we listen to Him, He guides us away from danger. He gives us His word in the Gospel so we may know Him and follow Him. He gave us the Eucharist so He may share His life with us, and guide us to Heaven. He protects us and loves us. **Jesus says His sheep follow the Good Shepherd because they know His voice. How do we recognize the voice of Jesus in others?** In prayer and in the Gospel, Jesus reveals himself and tells us what He wants from us. **What does Jesus say we should do to follow Him?** He tells us to love God and our neighbor with our whole heart. He showed us with His life when He: went out to pray to His Father, he cured the sick, he fed the hungry, he forgave sinners, He washed the feet of His apostles... **How can we listen to and follow Him?** Share.



### Activity

On the following page, color the Good Shepherd. On the next, color and cut the drawings and glue to sticks or pieces of cardboard. Glue cotton to the sheep. Act out how the Good Shepherd takes the sheep to drink water and eat grass, how he protects the sheep from the wolf, how he looks for the sheep when they are lost and how they take them to their pen at night to sleep. Emphasize how Jesus, the Good Shepherd loves His sheep and how the sheep follow Him and thus are saved. On the last page, complete the crossword puzzle.

### Prayer

Jesus, You know us by name. We thank You for loving us without conditions. Give us an open heart to listen to your voice and to always follow You. Amen

**Song:** We're Following Jesus, riverspringbbc, (Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/BcdxkZv9kDA> (3-6 yrs.)

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus, Lifetree Kids, (Ctrl Click) <https://youtu.be/sEL0WpeH088>

**PPT:** [https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/13vGw3wXlR50G8D9\\_vixbxZhNNTVx3\\_KA/edit?usp=drive\\_link&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/13vGw3wXlR50G8D9_vixbxZhNNTVx3_KA/edit?usp=drive_link&ouid=115268475267556305384&rtpof=true&sd=true)



Friends of Jesus and Mary  
Amigos de Jesús y María



Florida Center for Peace

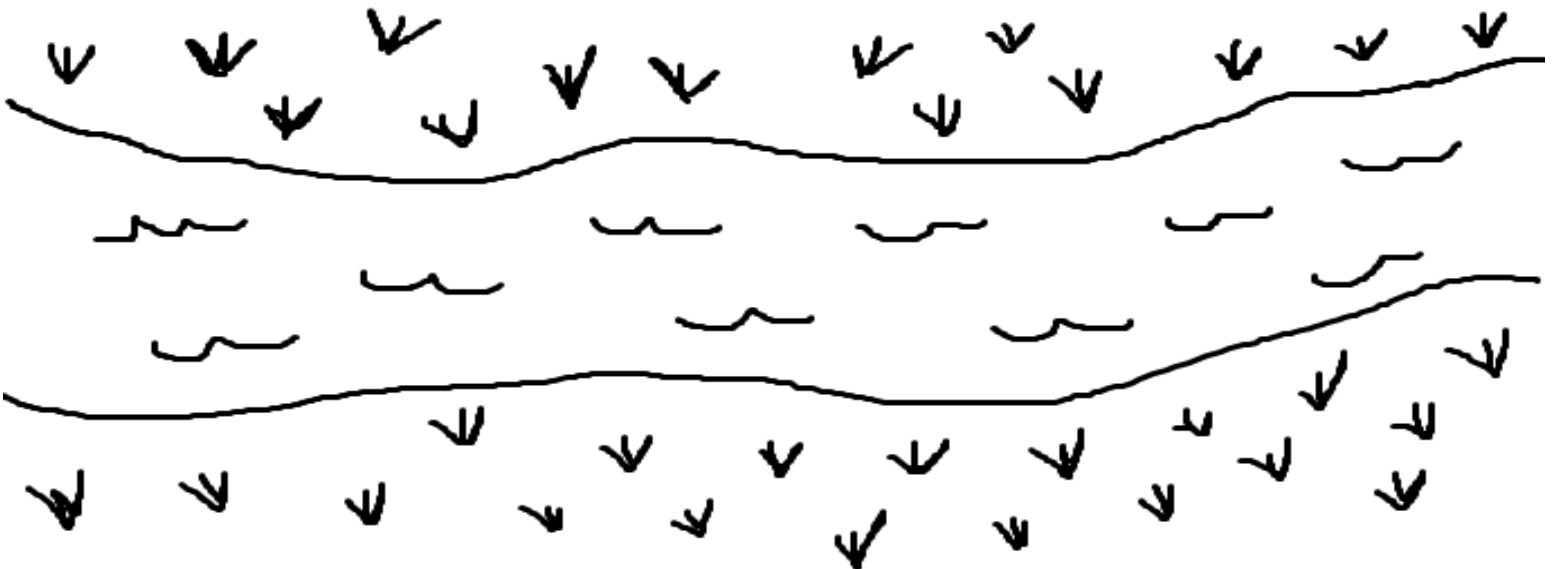
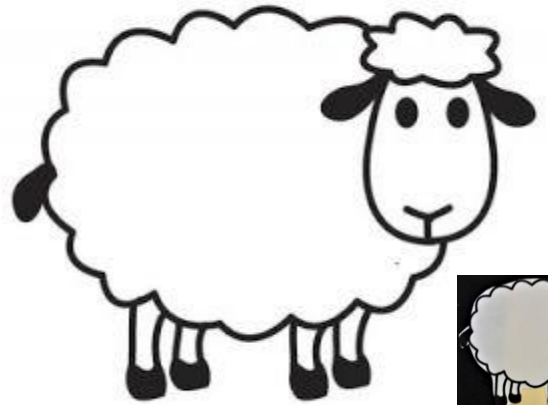
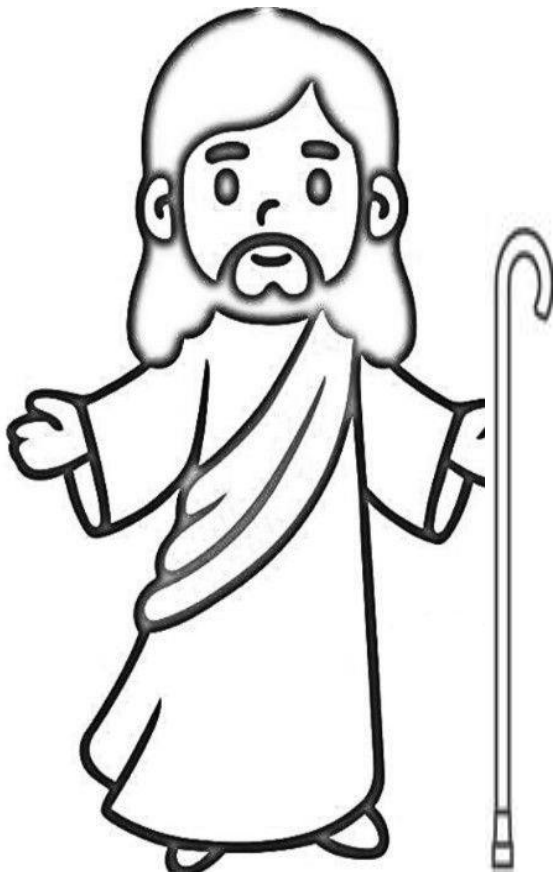
**I am the good shepherd, who is willing to die for the sheep. John 10:11**



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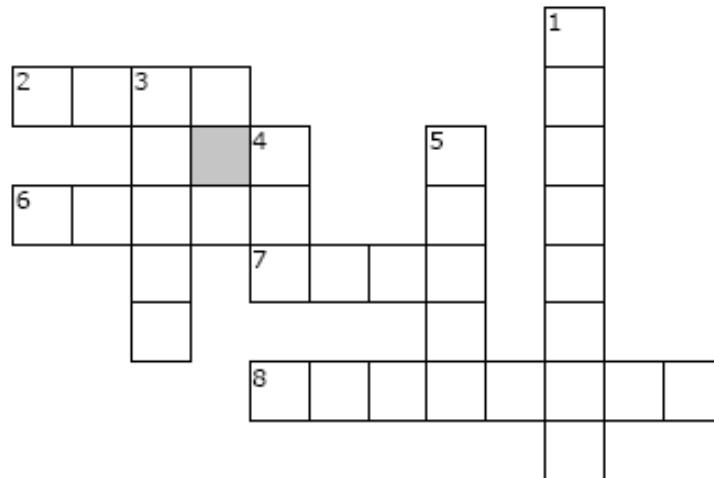
# The Shepherd and His Sheep

His sheep follow him because they know his voice.  
John 10:4b (NIV)

This puzzle is based on John 10:1-10 (NIV)



John 10:1-10



## ACROSS

2. An opening in a fence for entrance or exit
6. The sound made when people speak or sing
7. The word or words by which a person or thing is known
8. A person who takes care of sheep

## DOWN

1. Someone not known or not familiar
3. Someone who steals
4. A small area surrounded by a fence in which animals are kept
5. A farm animal with thick curly wool

SHEPHERD	THIEF	NAME	VOICE
SHEEP	GATE	STRANGER	PEN