

# App Store

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

God is always with us.

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will name some places it is hard to remember that God is with them, and be encouraged that he is there too.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

Psalm 23

### **INTRO:**

When we started this series, we talked about some of the ways that smart phones and apps have changed our lives. For example, when your parents were younger, they used to answer phones that were attached to a wall by a cord. You couldn't surf the Internet on the phone, and you couldn't take a photo on your phone either.

Adding a camera to the phone has probably changed our lives at least as much as adding the Internet to our phones. Cameras used to be separate devices that you had to carry around and load with film. Most rolls of film could only take up to 24 photos, and you had to send that film to a developer for a few days before you could actually see the pictures. Now you can take hundreds or thousands of photos on your camera. You can take twenty of the same shot and pick the best one, or you can keep them all.

People never took selfies before smartphones. That's because no one ever heard of a selfie; the word didn't exist! Now people are taking selfies everywhere they go, and thanks to apps like Instagram, they're posting and sharing them as soon as they take them.

Instagram allows us to share our photos in real time. Whether we're on vacation, at a party, or just having fun with friends, Instagram let's us share where we are and who we are with instantly! We can then look back weeks, months, or even years later to see the places we visited and remember who was with us.

Obviously, the people we read about in the Bible didn't have smartphones or Instagram or even cameras, but that doesn't mean they didn't do things to remember the places they've seen. David, the great king of Israel, wrote a beautiful poem, or Psalm, to remind him not just of a place he had been, but who he was with.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## READ PSALM 23

### MAIN POINT:

David was a man, but before he became king, David spent many days in the green pastures tending his father's sheep. David was a shepherd by trade, and he knew how dependent sheep were on the shepherd for guidance and protection.

David was a powerful king and a brave military commander, yet here he is describing himself as a sheep. Even in the palace of Jerusalem, David knew he needed God. He knew he needed God to lead him and protect him. He needed God in good times and bad.

David knew one thing more about God. He knew that God was always there. In the green pastures and in the dark valleys, God was with him and would never leave him, and God will never leave us. He is always with us wherever we go.

### DRIVE IT HOME:

Sometimes all of us feel like a lost sheep. Bad news can send us reeling. Sickness, tragedy, and disappointment can make us feel like we are lost. Sometimes sin causes us to fall away from God. We feel lost, and we feel like we can never be found again.

It's for times like those that David wrote this Psalm. Like an Instagram feed full of photos of family and friends, Psalm 23 reminds us that no matter where we go, we are never alone.

Do you have photos at Mt. Rushmore? God was there. Do you have photos at the beach? God is in those pictures too. God was there at Christmas, on your birthday, and every day in between.

God is always with us. Even though we can't see him with our eyes, he is only a prayer away. God wants to lead us and protect us like the good shepherd caring for his sheep.

When life gets hard, and it will, remember that you are not alone. Ask God to show you where he was during all the good times and bad times, and ask him to be close right where you are. God is the good shepherd, and he will never leave us.

### CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Thank you for always being by our side.*

*In Jesus' name,  
Amen*