# WHEN TROUBLE COMES

# **LESSON 2: JESUS PROTECTS US**

## Lessons in this series: <u>1</u>2

Through this lesson children will learn that Jesus not only understands our troubles, but also that He will help us get through the difficult times in our lives.

#### TOPICS

Difficulties, Protection

#### **OPENING PRAYER AND PRAISE (5 minutes)**

Praise and worship are an important part of a believer's life and children often learn best by watching and repeating what they see. So please, praise and worship together.

#### **SCRIPTURE READING AND DISCUSSION (15 minutes)**

#### Introduction:

Explain the level of love that shepherds have for their sheep; many shepherds put their own lives in danger to protect the sheep. Likewise, Jesus watches over us and even gave His life so that we can be reconciled to God.

#### Read Matthew 18:5-6, 10-14 (Jesus cares about children's spiritual welfare)

Read the passage to the children as they follow along in their own Bibles.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Does it make God angry if someone causes one of His children to sin? (Yes, very angry.)

2. God cares for His children and watches over us. What creatures are before the face of God the Father in Heaven and are continually watching over us? (*The Lord's ministering angels.*)

3. What did the good shepherd do if he found that one of his sheep was missing? (Left the 99 sheep on the hills and went to find the sheep that was lost.)

4. How does the good shepherd in this scripture relate to what Jesus did for us? (Jesus left Heaven and came to earth to find us because we were lost in sin.)

5. What could have happened to the lost sheep if the shepherd didn't go and find it? (*It could have fallen in a hole or been attacked by other animals.*)

6. As the shepherd protected his flock from danger, from whom does Jesus protect us? (Jesus protects us from Satan, who wants to destroy us.)

7. The Bible says that our Father who is in Heaven is not willing that any of His little ones should perish. Isn't it wonderful to know that God is willing and able to protect us? (Yes, it's wonderful that our good shepherd, the Lord Jesus, wants to save us from sin and death.)

### **CLASS EXERCISE (10 minutes)**

Bag of Joy - (See Separate Video)

#### SUGGESTED PARENT/CHILD ACTIVITY

Together, make your own bag of joy. Decorate it any way you would like. Once you've completed the bag, help your child brainstorm some happy moments along with some tough times you all may have experienced as a unit. Then, using these moments - discuss how God either worked to bring about that happiness or how God helped to get you through the difficult times.

Materials: Bags, Band-aids, Ribbons, Glue, Pencils, Markers, index cards.

#### **APPLICATION (2 minutes)**

Just as a shepherd watches over his flock the Lord Jesus watches over us. God will protect us when trouble comes our way. Isn't it encouraging to know that God not only has His ministering angels watching over us, but that He also sent His one and only son Jesus to save us from our sins? If we read our Bibles, pray and listen for God's gentle voice, we will hear the voice of the good shepherd softly calling us home.

#### **CLOSING PRAYER (2 minutes)**