

# EXPLORING VOCATION AND CALLING WITH CHILDREN

[LESSON PLAN FOR ONLINE WORSHIP/SUNDAY SCHOOL]

**Title:** Following Jesus

**Opening the lesson:** We are followers of Jesus. As followers of Jesus we have the special task of helping other people know how much he loves them by doing God's work in the world. Jesus said he was the Good Shepherd who loves and cares for his sheep, and so we must show the same love and care for others as he shows us.

**Bible Story:** John 10:1-18 [The Good Shepherd]

**Activity 1:** Make a Sheep Mask

Either using the template provided or your own design, encourage the children to make a sheep mask. They can use cotton wool to decorate it or simply colour it in.

Remind the children that we are sheep of Jesus' flock, he loves us and wants us to go wherever he leads us in our lives.

**Activity 2: Colour the Sheep**

The children may want to colour in the picture of the sheep provided, or draw their own, and decorate it with any other materials available at home.

We are the sheep and every sheep is unique and special to Jesus.

**Activity 3: Find the Shepherd Maze**

Invite the children to try and guide the sheep to the shepherd through the maze.

The sheep would not normally have our help to find the shepherd, they would normally need to listen carefully to his call. Jesus calls us to follow him, we need to listen carefully to him too.

**Discussion questions:**

Who cares for, loves and guides us in our daily lives other than Jesus? (Parents, teachers, doctor etc..)

Who do we think is the shepherd in the church who looks after Jesus' sheep? (The priest/vicar/clergy)

Who else have special jobs in church to help and look after us? (Sunday school teachers, churchwardens etc..)

What jobs would/can we do to help in church? (Serve at the altar, help with books/collection etc..)

What can we do to show others we love and care for them just like Jesus? (Support foodbank, help the elderly etc..)

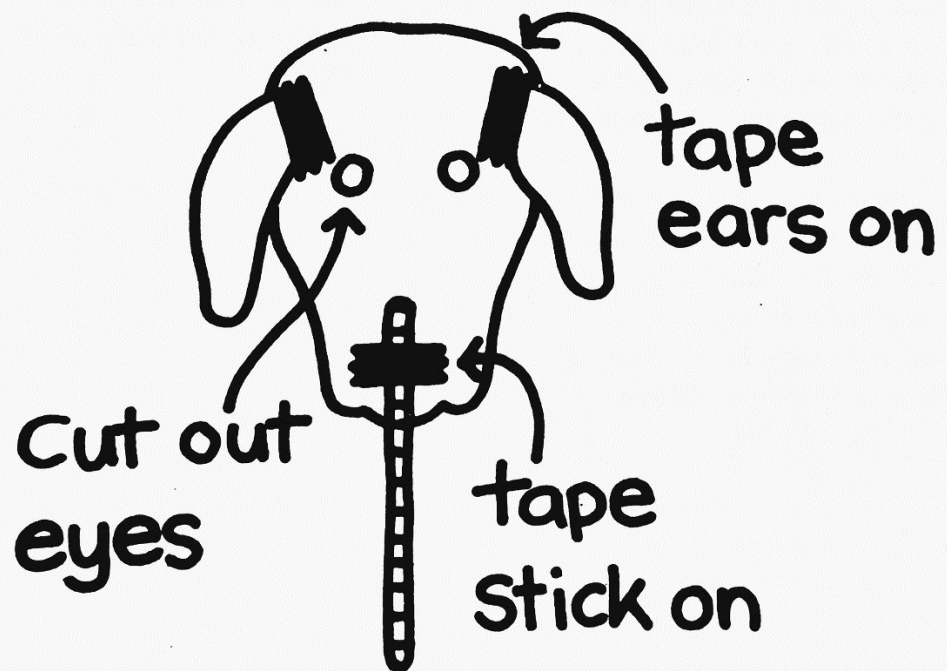
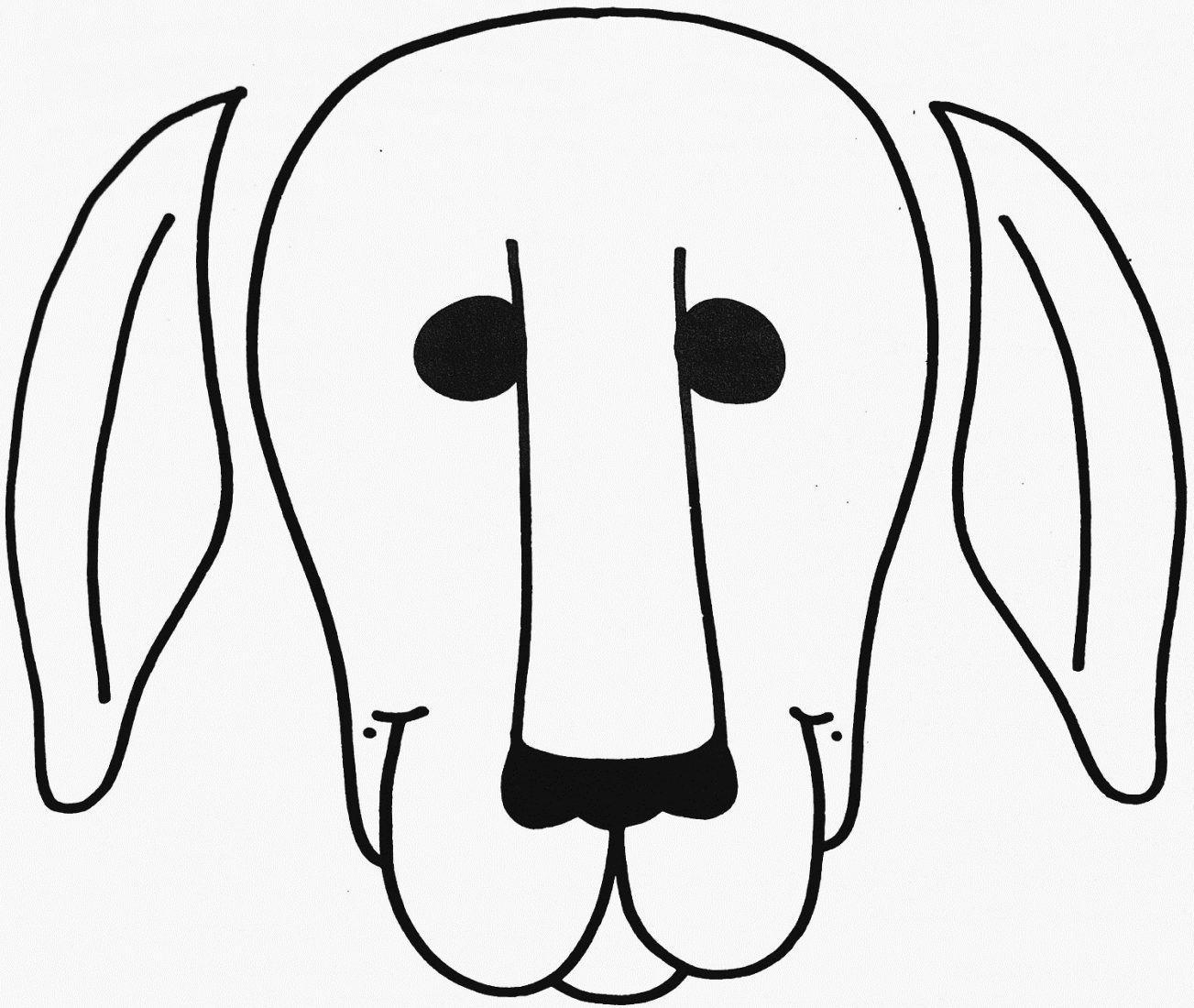
**Closing the lesson:** Following Jesus involves doing special tasks and jobs, in church and outside of church. We can ask Jesus to help us work out how best we can follow him and be the best sheep that we can be!

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus, you are our Shepherd and we are your sheep, help us to follow you faithfully in all that we do. We want to listen carefully to your voice and understand what our special task is in the world. Amen.

*[Activity ideas from: 'The Complete Children's Ministry Book' by Katie Thompson]*

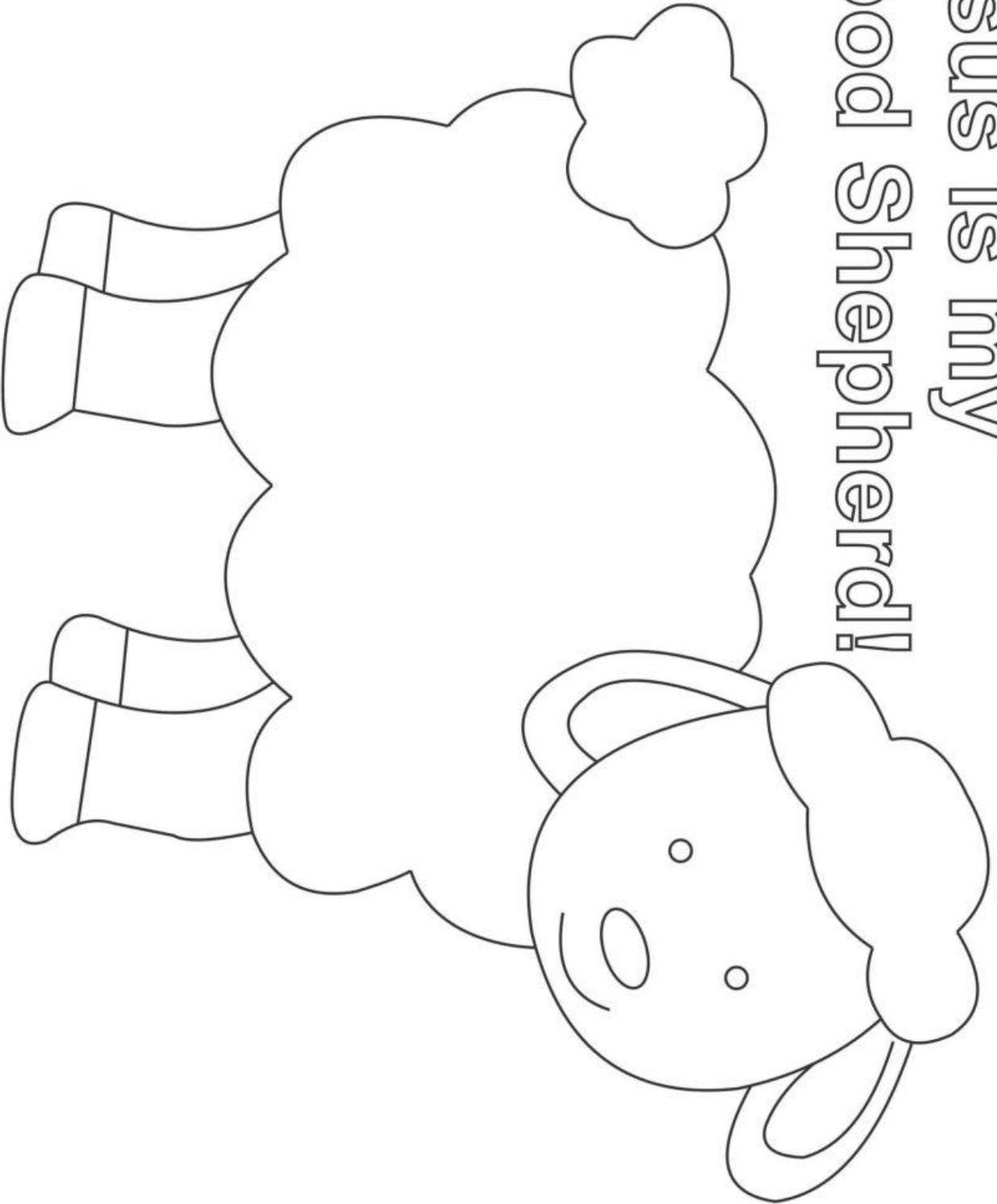


# ACTIVITY I



## ACTIVITY 2

Jesus is my  
Good Shepherd!





### ACTIVITY 3

