

### Matthew chapter 18 verse 12 to 14; Luke chapter 15 verses 3 to 7; Psalms chapter 139

Christians believe that each one of us is a unique and important person made by God; we all have our own individual likes and abilities that we can use to do good things. The Bible story used in the presentation is a parable that Jesus told about the lost sheep. In the parable God is likened to a shepherd who has 100 sheep and when one goes missing he leaves his 99 sheep and searches high and low to find the one that has got lost. Jesus says that when the shepherd finds the lost sheep he celebrates over it. For Christians, the parable of the Lost Sheep is a reminder that even in difficult and tough times each individual is valuable and precious to God. When something is precious, we look after it and treat it with respect and care.

### Reflection

- Each of us is a unique individual with different likes and abilities - how does this make you feel?
- Have you ever been lost somewhere, or felt alone? How did you feel when you were found?
- Why did the farmer in the story go and look for the one lost sheep?
- How could you use your gift or talents to care for someone else - perhaps to make a card, write a letter or help with washing up or tidying?
- Think about something that is precious to you – what do you do to take care of it?

### Links

Versions of the Bible story can be found here – please check they are suitable for your group:

Lego Psalm 139 <https://youtu.be/7eQ7D-A00Bw>

The parable of the lost sheep <https://youtu.be/Ry2MaMyvGo>

The Lost Sheep by Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen <https://youtu.be/094upaf4BME>

or <https://youtu.be/Xz1oZRugh1E>

I am unique <https://youtu.be/DQs7hc3kuLw>

### Inspire Prayer Space Activity – Precious

#### Equipment

Playdough

Playdough mats and tools

#### Description

We all have items that are precious to us - a photograph of someone, a gift given to you, a reminder of a special day... We keep these things safe because they are precious, maybe putting them high up in a special box, taking great care when you move and handle them. In the Bible in the book of Isaiah, God says that we are precious to him and that he loves us. Christians believe that God shows us this in many different ways - by always listening when we talk to him in prayer, showing he is faithful in Bible stories and answering our prayers! What things are precious to you? What do you do to look after these precious items to show them love and care like God has shown us?

#### Instructions

Take some of the playdough and mould it into something that is precious to you, taking great care just like you would with the actual item. As you do this, you could talk to God and thank him for the precious item and the time that it reminds you of.

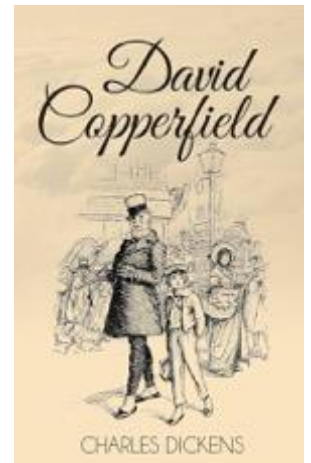
inspire  
prayer spaces



## A Masterpiece

The word *masterpiece* originally referred to a piece of work produced by an apprentice who wanted to become a master craftsman in the old European guild system. To qualify for guild membership, they were judged partly by the masterpiece. Great care was therefore taken to produce a fine piece in whatever the craft was, whether confectionery, painting, carpentry, jewellery making, leatherwork, or many other trades.

The word 'masterpiece' is now often used for an artist's greatest work, for instance the novel *David Copperfield* by Charles Dickens is considered his masterpiece as is Michaelangelo's sculpture, *The Pietà*, or Van Gogh's painting, *The Starry Night*, as mentioned in the assembly.



What craft would you choose to make your masterpiece in? Plan what you would use to create it.

## God's Masterpiece

Adapted version of Psalm 139, used with BSL by the GenR8 team  
(modified from a version by Barnabas for Schools)

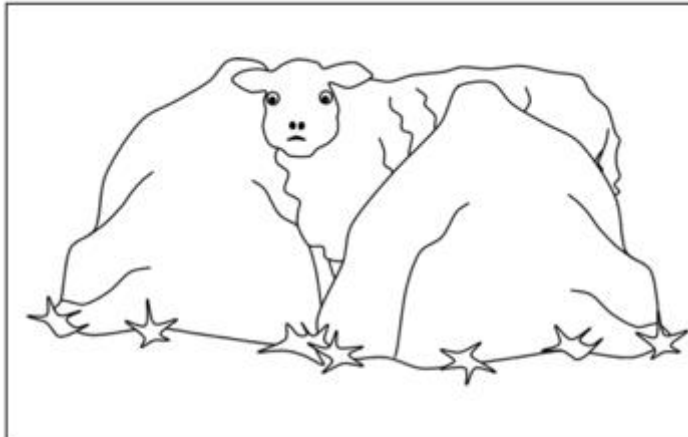
Wow, God! You know me through and through!  
You care about each thing I do.  
You see me sleep each night and work each day.  
You know each thing I think and say.  
You are with me wherever I go.  
There's nothing about me you don't know.  
You put me together, each part in its place.  
Before I was born you knew my face.  
You made me a masterpiece: I don't know how, God.  
You made me a masterpiece: I just say 'Wow, God'!



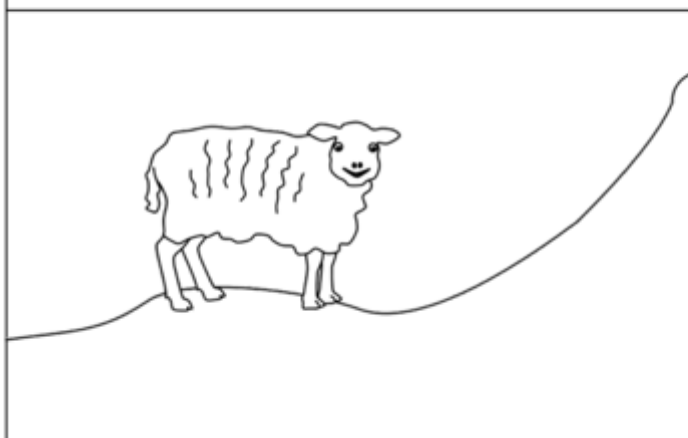
## The Lost Sheep

Luke chapter 15 verses 1 to 7

Cut out the pictures below and arrange them in the right order for the story. You can then colour the pictures in. To re-tell the story you can write some words for each of the pictures or tell the story to a friend.



# The Lost Sheep



## Word Search

R	R	E	J	O	H	I	F	C
E	E	W	S	C	I	C	O	T
L	H	M	R	H	A	M	U	D
L	O	A	R	R	E	E	N	I
O	E	V	E	A	L	E	D	A
S	U	S	E	K	F	E	P	R
T	D	E	R	D	N	U	H	F
P	R	E	C	I	O	U	S	A
E	N	O	L	A	E	F	A	S

Find these words about the story of the lost sheep:

AFRAID

ALONE

CARES

FARMER

FOUND

HUNDRED

PRECIOUS

LOST

LOVED

SAFE

SEARCH

SHEEP

The letters that are left spell out something that the farmer said when he found the sheep that had been lost, and then the name of a book of the Bible where the story can be found. Fill them in the spaces below.

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## Maze

