

No Sheep Left Behind!

A short sermon by
Jessica Fernbach

About Jessica

Jessica is 18 and finishing up her senior year.

She's been growing her talent in creative writing since childhood. She loves expressing her emotions, beliefs and creativity through writing and speaking to others. She's won awards in school and through participating in Fine Arts with the Assemblies of God.

In the future, she'd love to work in the ministry, especially with children.



TRANSCRIPT: "No Sheep Left Behind"

Hi! I'm Jess the shepherd, and this is my sheep Betsy!

Now, Betsy was not supposed to be here today but she was lost! Fortunately, I found her and came here! So, here's the story...

Before I was on my way to my church to preach this sermon, I decided to count my sheep. I wanted to leave knowing that all my sheep were safe. After I counted, I realized that I was missing Betsy! I had to find her right away!

My parents told me to just go to Church because if I were late, pastor Dan would not like it. I told my parents that I want Betsy to be safe. My parents told me that it does not matter because I have a bunch of other sheep at home. I told them that EVERY sheep matters. Then I left and found Betsy alone, shaking in the streets.

I carried her home, then we ordered Uber Eats and I got her mac and cheese, a milkshake, and cake! Now we are here and she is no longer cold and hungry.

Even though Betsy ran away, I found her and fed her. Even though I have a bunch of other sheep, I still looked for Betsy. I love Betsy and Betsy loves me. She is glad that she is going back home later.

Aren't you guys glad that I looked for Betsy? She is so cute! Betsy reminds me of a story that Jesus told in The Bible. Jesus said that God is our shepherd and we are his sheep. If one of us ran away from God, he would look for us, find us, then He will throw a party in Heaven!

If God had 100 sheep and if one ran away, He would leave the 99 to find the 1 that is missing. Isn't that amazing? I have a lot of sheep, but I don't have 99! 99 is huge, but God loved that one sheep who ran away. So He looked for it, found it, then He threw a party in Heaven. Even though God has so many followers, He will look for the one that is lost, because they matter too.

No matter how bad you were, God will still love you. In another story that Jesus told, there was a dad who had 2 sons. The younger son asked his dad to give him tons of money, so the dad did and the younger son moved to a different country. Instead of using his money for a house, food and water, he

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used all of his money for fun and things that made God sad. When his money was gone, he could no longer buy stuff to have fun.

Then in his country there was almost no food left, this is called a famine. The younger son realized that he needed help. He decided to go back to his father's house to tell him that he was not worthy to be his son because of the wasted money. He was going to ask his dad to be a servant instead, so that he can at least get food. When the father saw his son walking up the street, he ran to give him a hug. The younger son told his dad that he had sinned and was not worthy to be his son.

But the father had his servants put a robe on his son, a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. The father celebrated his son's return with a feast and he killed the fattest cow to feed his youngest son.

The older brother found out about the celebration and was mad at the father. He asked his dad why he had a whole feast for the son who disobeyed him but not even a goat for the son who always obeyed his father. The father answered that they had a feast because the younger son was dead and is now alive, that he was lost and is now found. They celebrated since he came back home.

The reason I bought mac and cheese, a milkshake and cake for Betsy is because I found her. I was so glad that she was safe. I got her back. So, when we are lost, God will look for us because we all matter. Once God finds us, He will have a party in Heaven and take care of us because He is so happy that we are back following Him.

God will always love us and will always look for us! That is such an amazing gift! Isn't it great that God loves us this much?

Ooooooh that reminds me of our bible verse for today!(Unveil) "Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever" Psalm 23:6. Since God will always be looking for us and celebrating when he finds us, His love doesn't fail! When we do come back to God's house and admit our sins. He will allow us back so we can live there forever.

Now let's all repeat the bible verse on the count of 3! 1...2...3! "Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever" Psalm 23:6.

This is Jess the shepherd with my sheep Betsy reminding you that God will always love and look out for you! Thank you!