

Love is powerful



Bible verses:
 Luke 2:8-20



Aim:
 To consider why the angels appear to shepherds, and why the 'outsiders' receive the good news first



Today's fruit:
 Love

Resource: *Some shepherds hear about Jesus*



Memory verse

'God will give us a son who will be responsible for leading the people.

His name will be

Wonderful Counsellor,

Powerful God,

Father Who Lives Forever,

Prince of Peace.'

(Isaiah 9:6 ERV)



Start it

Ask if anyone has ever had any exciting news and encourage the children to share it. Say that today we will be exploring the story of some very exciting news and wonder together why it might be important. Can they guess what the exciting news is?



Share it

Use the *Some shepherds hear about Jesus* handout. Cut out the characters and place them in the middle of the circle as you read the story, stopping to add in characters or ask questions.

I wonder:

- Why did the angels appear to the shepherds?
- Why did God want the shepherds to be the first people to meet Jesus?
- What did they do after they met him?



Sing It

'Isaiah 9:6' (memory verse song) by Quest NC (1:15)

'There are promises' (official kids worship music video) by YancynotNancy (2:08)

'God gave me Jesus' (pre-school worship song) by KidSpring Children's Ministry (1:54)

Action it

Games and activities to reinforce the Bible passage: Love is Powerful

- **Make:** Colour and stick the characters from the *Some shepherds hear about Jesus* handout on to the fourth page of the Advent timeline.
- **Play:** Play a game of *Round-up*. Scatter cotton-wool balls around your space and call them 'sheep'. Ask the children to 'round up' the sheep and make sure they're safe. To make it trickier, you could give the children some card to waft the sheep rather than using their hands!
- **Pray:** Sit in a circle and give each person a cotton-wool ball to hold carefully in their hands. Thank God for the shepherds, who told everyone about the birth of Jesus. Thank God that they were chosen to see this very special part of his story.
- **Try:** If you have people who will be coming to your church in the next couple of days, you might like to make some Christmas cards that could be given out with food parcels / gift boxes / warm meals, or sent to those in hospital ... They can include a simple Christmas greeting inside them from your church.