



# Sheep Gone Astray

Isaiah 56:3

## *Items Needed*

- ✓ Bible with marked scripture
- ✓ Pencils/Crayons
- ✓ Craft Supplies (see craft instructions)
- ✓ Copies of Sheep Maze
- ✓ Copies of Coloring Sheet
- ✓ Copies of Take Home Overview Sheet



## Sheep Gone Astray

### Objective of Lesson

This lesson will show our part in the salvation of our souls, and the part of our Lord Jesus Christ. We do the sinning; He does the saving. We are the problem; Christ is the solution. We are like sheep gone astray. We are needy; Christ supplies our need.

### Scripture Reference

*Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

### Lesson Instructions

1. Let's read the verse out loud. In our verse it says, "All we like sheep have gone astray;" - What does that word "astray" mean? It means they move away from the correct path or direction. If you are commanded to follow a certain path and you get off that path, you have "gone astray".
2. Why do you think sheep stray? Are sheep really smart animals? Not really; they are very helpless animals. They are born this way. They don't have the "smarts" to keep themselves safe and out of trouble. They don't have any way of defending themselves. They don't have any way of feeding themselves; nor do they have any way of finding their way to a safe place.

You can't tell them what to do because they can't understand you. They just can't do anything for themselves and that is the way they are born. They can't be trained to understand you. If you left them to themselves they would die, because they don't know how to take care of themselves.

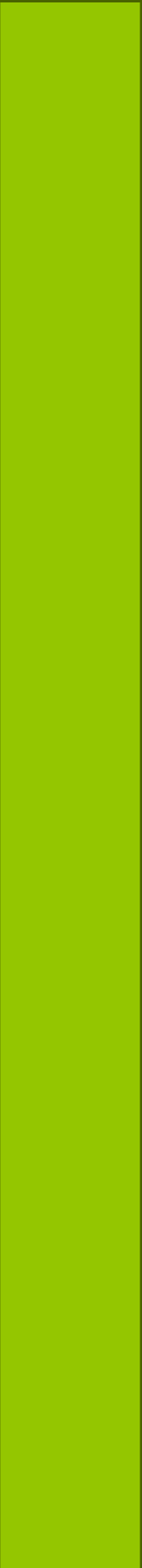
3. Is there a way to keep sheep safe? There is only one way. All sheep, in order to be kept safe, fed, and kept on their correct path, have to be "hedged about." A fence or a boundary must be put up around them to keep them from straying. Why do sheep have to be hedged about? It is because of their sheep nature; they have to be hedged in, or they will stray. Do sheep sit there and decide, "Hmm, should I stray today, or not?" NO, they just do. If you took down the fence, they would be goners.
4. The Bible is not just talking about sheep here. What does the verse say? "All we like sheep..." Who is the "we" the Lord God is talking about here? The "we" in this verse is talking about men and women, boys and girls just like you and me - all of us.
5. "We are like sheep." This is called an illustration. The Lord is teaching us here that we are all just like those sheep. Our nature was ruined in our father Adam. Do you remember when we learned Adam sinned in the garden? That is when the whole human race "went astray." How did we "go astray" like sheep? Just like sheep, we don't have the ability to keep ourselves safe and out of trouble. We don't have any way of defending ourselves from sin. We don't have any way of feeding ourselves from the Word of God. We don't have any way of finding our way to a good and safe place. God told us how to be good and righteous and holy but we, "like sheep" can't do it. It is not in our nature. Our following God's law can't help us, because of our nature - "we like sheep" - just can't do it. We can't be trained to understand the things of God. If God left us to ourselves, then we would die in our sins. We like sheep have gone astray - helpless and unable to stay on the right path.
6. The Bible does not say, "All we, like sheep SOMETIMES have gone astray." We don't get it right "sometimes;" we don't ever get it right. Just like sheep,

if you take down the fence, we are goners. God says "this way" and we go "that way".

7. Oh, but there is good news in this verse! Does this verse say the sheep are goners? No! What does it say? "...and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all." What does the word iniquity mean? It means God said, "Go this way," and we didn't - instead we went the other way. Iniquity is horrible sin and rebellion. It is saying to God in our hearts that we want to do everything "our own way". It means to be immoral, to be evil, to be unjust, to be criminal, to be wicked, and to go the opposite way of God.
8. Does the Bible teach that God forgives iniquity? NO. The Bible says, "For the wages of sin is death." If you sin or commit iniquity - it must be punished! Does God say that even though I tell you to go this way and instead you go that way, that it's OK; I am going to overlook that? NO!
9. Now what? If sheep cannot change their nature and start taking care of themselves, they die. The same is true with sinners - if sinners cannot change their nature and obey God - they will surely die. What are they going to do? Does this mean they are doomed to die? No.
10. It tells us in this verse that the iniquity of the sheep is laid on Him! We sin - AH! But good news is delivered in this verse! God has mercy! God provided a way in which helpless, stupid, sinful sheep (His sheep, His people) can be saved. He laid the iniquity of His sheep - His people - on His son Jesus Christ, and those sheep - those people - are hedged about! They are not doomed to die! God has hedged them about in His son Jesus Christ.

## Lesson Activities

- Sheep Maze
- Coloring Page
- Sheep Yarn Craft - You will need: Black craft foam, White or off-white yarn, and scissors and round object for the eye (button, goggle eye,



pasta etc..). How to make the craft: 1. Cut out a sheep shape from black craft foam from the template provided. 2. Cut about 3 to 3 1/2 yards of yarn and have the children around the body, neck and head of the foam sheep cutout. When they have wrapped the yarn around the sheep completely, help them tie the end of the yarn under the layers of wound yarn. 3. To finish glue on small goggle eye or use a small drop of white paint for the eye.

# Take Home Lesson Overview



## Sheep Gone Astray

### Scripture Reference:

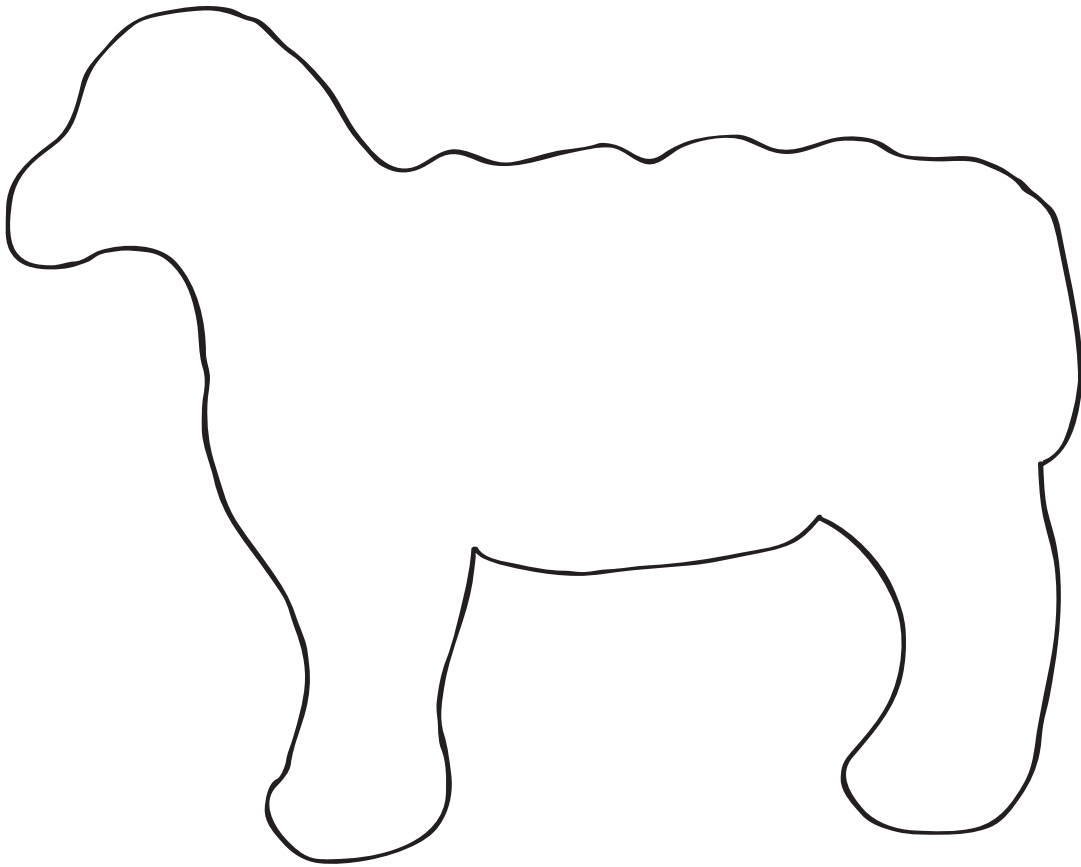
Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

### Lesson Overview:

Here is our part in the salvation of our souls - and His part. We do the sinning; He does the saving. We are the problem; He is the solution. We are like sheep gone astray. The Lord is our shepherd. We are needy; He supplies our need. If sheep cannot change their nature and start taking care of themselves, they die. The same is true with sinners. If sinners cannot change their nature and obey God - they will surely die. What are they going to do? Does this mean they are doomed to die? No.

It tells us in this verse that the iniquity of the sheep is laid on him! We sin - AH! But good news is delivered in this verse! God has mercy! God provided a way in which helpless, stupid, sinful sheep (His sheep, His people) can be saved. He laid the iniquity of His sheep - His people - on His son Jesus Christ and those sheep - those people - are hedged about! They are not doomed to die! God has hedged them about in His Son Jesus Christ.

# Sheep Template



Sheep Gone Astray  
Maze Puzzle

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way;  
and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

