

# Kids' Chronicle

## Jesus describes a good shepherd

BY JOE SARNICOLA

Jesus was teaching in the shade of a grove of olive trees. In the distance, shepherds were tending their sheep. Jesus pointed to the shepherds and said to the people, "Listen to what I tell you. Be alert, so that you will not be fooled. There is a gate that leads to the sheep pen. The gate keeper opens the gate only for the shepherd. If someone tries to enter the pen by climbing over the fence, or by breaking in some other way, he is a thief."

"The sheep will not follow a thief," Jesus continued. "They know the voice of their shepherd. Their shepherd knows each of them by name. He leads them to where there is grass and water. He protects them. The sheep trust him with their safety."

A young man raised his hand to get Jesus' attention.

"Teacher," he said, "we know about our sheep. What does this have to do with the kingdom of God?"

Jesus smiled and said, "Let me explain more simply. I am the gate through which the sheep pass in and out of the pen. There were others who pretended to be the gate, who tried to fool my sheep. But my sheep did not listen to them."

Jesus motioned for the people to lean closer, in order to hear what he was about to say.

"When you go to sleep at night," he said, "a thief would not knock on your door. He would try to break in and steal your property or hurt your family. It is the same with the kingdom of God."

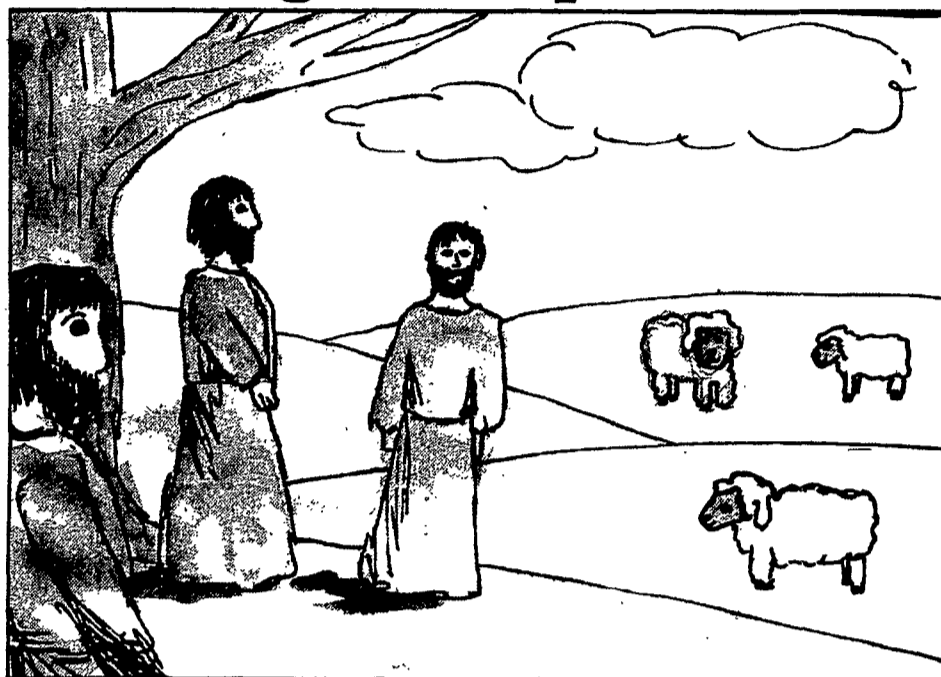


Illustration by Amy Sundstrom

There are those who would try to steal God's sheep or hurt them, if God were not looking out for them. But I have been sent to bring life, a life that is full and rewarding.

"I am the good shepherd," Jesus continued. "I am willing to give up my life for my sheep. A man hired by the shepherd to watch the sheep would not endanger his own life if a wolf threatened the sheep. He would run away to safety. Then the wolf would be able to attack the sheep and send them running in terror."

Jesus stood up and walked through the crowd, as the people made room for him to pass.

"I will tell you one more thing," Jesus

said. "No one will be able to take my life from me. I will give it up for you. And, as my father has commanded me, I will be able to bring it back, as well."

This last statement by Jesus started the people arguing among themselves. They could not understand how anyone could give up and then bring back his own life.

READ MORE ABOUT IT: John 10

### Q&A

Q: 1. Who did not use the gate to the sheep's pen?  
2. What kind of a shepherd was Jesus?

### Bible Trivia

Which famous shepherd of the Old Testament became a king? (Samuel 10)

Send Answer to: Catholic Courier Bible Trivia, P.O. Box 24379, Rochester, N.Y. 14624. Please include your name, address and school name.

All entries must be received by May 9, 1996. A winner will be selected at random from all the correct entries submitted.

Last month's winner was Cheryl Ann Eddinger, a student at Bloomfield Central School. She correctly identified Joseph of Arimathea as a distinguished member of the council of Sanhedrin.

### Puzzle

Match the Bible characters with their occupations. Answers can be found on page 2.

- |                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ___ 1. Peter                  | a. carpenter (Matthew 13)    |
| ___ 2. Matthew                | b. fisherman (Matthew 4)     |
| ___ 3. Joseph, Mary's husband | c. shipbuilder (Genesis 6)   |
| ___ 4. Noah                   | d. tax collector (Matthew 9) |
| ___ 5. Adam                   | e. doctor (Colossians 4)     |
| ___ 6. Luke                   | f. gardener (Genesis 2)      |

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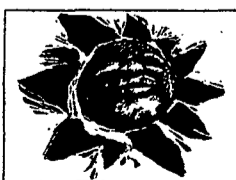
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from the Catholic Courier

### Summer Guide

Publication Date: May 23 • Advertising Deadline: May 19



As Courier readers prepare for the summer months, this special supplement will present them with a host of activities for their consideration. From nearby church-sponsored festivals and retreats to places beyond, this supplement will serve as a well-used summer planning guide.

### Graduation

Publication Date: June 13 • Advertising Deadline: May 30  
(Bonus distribution to graduating students)



A look at the high school Class of '96 as its members prepare for life after high school. In addition to the annual listing of graduates' names, this special supplement also will contain feature articles on selected graduates, with special emphasis on their expectations and plans for the future.

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