



DAY ONE LESSON PLANS

The mediocre teacher tells.

The good teacher explains.

The superior teacher demonstrates.

The great teacher inspires!

~ WILLIAM ARTHUR WARD ~

AMO[®] DAY ONE

Time: 2½ hours

Reading: Psalm 139

Goal of the Lesson: Introduce children to the AMO[®] Program, the Good Shepherd, Christian self-government, and the AMO[®] Compact.

Principle: God created each one of us in His image with great diversity, creativity, and potential to fulfill His plan for our lives.

Scripture: Psalm 139 (New Living Word)

TEACHER



Vocabulary:

compact (n.) An agreement; contract or covenant between two individuals or parties.

constitution (n.) A system of first principles for governing a group of individuals working or living together that is written and signed.

individuality (n.) The distinct personality and character of an individual.

infinite (adj.) Without limits; boundless; without end; applied to time, space and qualities.

principle (n.) 1) The cause, source or origin of anything; that from which a thing proceeds; 2) Foundational truth; “a seed.”

promise (n.) 1) A declaration, written or verbal, made by one person to another, which binds the person who makes it, either in honor, conscience or law, to do what is agreed upon. 2) Hope or expectation.

unique (adj.) One of a kind.



Preparation to Teach:

1. Prepare the classroom with the bulletin boards, Timeline of Promise, Treasure Chest and art tables.
2. Read all the instructions of this lesson plan and prepare for each component of the lesson.

STUDENT



Key Word:

potential (n.) Anything that may be possible; possible qualities that may be dormant or undetected.



Reason Questions:

1. Why are you special?
2. Name the distinctives that make you “one of a kind!”
3. What is your dream for your life? What do you desire to be when you grow up?



Notebook Record:

1. Write your name and date on the binder title page. Color the Good Shepherd with your colored pencils, and file in your binder.
2. Label four dividers as follows:
 - Literature
 - History
 - Bible
 - The Arts

3. Read Psalm 139. Study the lesson's vocabulary words before teaching and reflect upon their application.
4. Practice the Wellspring Good Shepherd presentation so you can present it without assistance.
5. Gather all the resources needed for the lesson: Bible, vocabulary card, binders, four dividers for each child, day one binder title pages, colored pencils, AMO® Compacts, *Frederick*, and the Wellspring of Wonder® basket with the Good Shepherd materials.



Teaching Plan:

1. Welcome the children. Introduce the teaching staff.
2. Ask the children to sit in a circle. Pray and ask the Lord to come be a part of your program and reveal His great love to each of the children by His Holy Spirit.
3. Have each child take time to find out the name and some interesting facts about the child on his right. Then, have him introduce the child by name and tell one thing that is special about him. Go all around the circle.
4. Have the children sit at tables. Create a loving environment for listening, looking, and learning. Introduce the children to the spirit of AMO®: the joy of hearing classics read aloud; participating in the fine arts; reading and reasoning with the Word of God; helping others; and celebrating learning in a festival.
Read *Frederick* aloud to the children.
5. Introduce the children to the notebook method. Having an AMO® binder (notebook) will enable each child to create a permanent record of what he or she is learning. Distribute a binder, a set of colored pencils, four dividers and the Title Page graphic organizer to each child.

Every book has a title page. Likewise, the AMO® binder will have one. Have each child complete the title page for his AMO® binder by writing his name and the year on the lines provided. If a child cannot write, print the child's name and year on it for him. Have the children color the Good Shepherd illustration and file the title page at the front of the binder.

Have them label four dividers and file in their binders:

- Literature
- History
- Bible
- The Arts

6. Teach God's principle of individuality. (See AMO® Teacher Manual.) God made each one of us in His image. We are very special to Him. Each reflects His *infinite* and *diverse individuality*. God has imparted dignity, value, and immortality

3. Insert the four dividers behind the title page in your binder.
4. Sign your personal AMO® Compact and file it behind your title page.



Sign Classroom Compact



Oral Work:

1. Read the poem together: "God Made Me Special!"
2. I am a promise! I am a possibility!



Singing:

"You Are a Promise"

to each of us. Read Miss Slater's poem: "I Am Special." Pin the poem on the Individuality bulletin board.

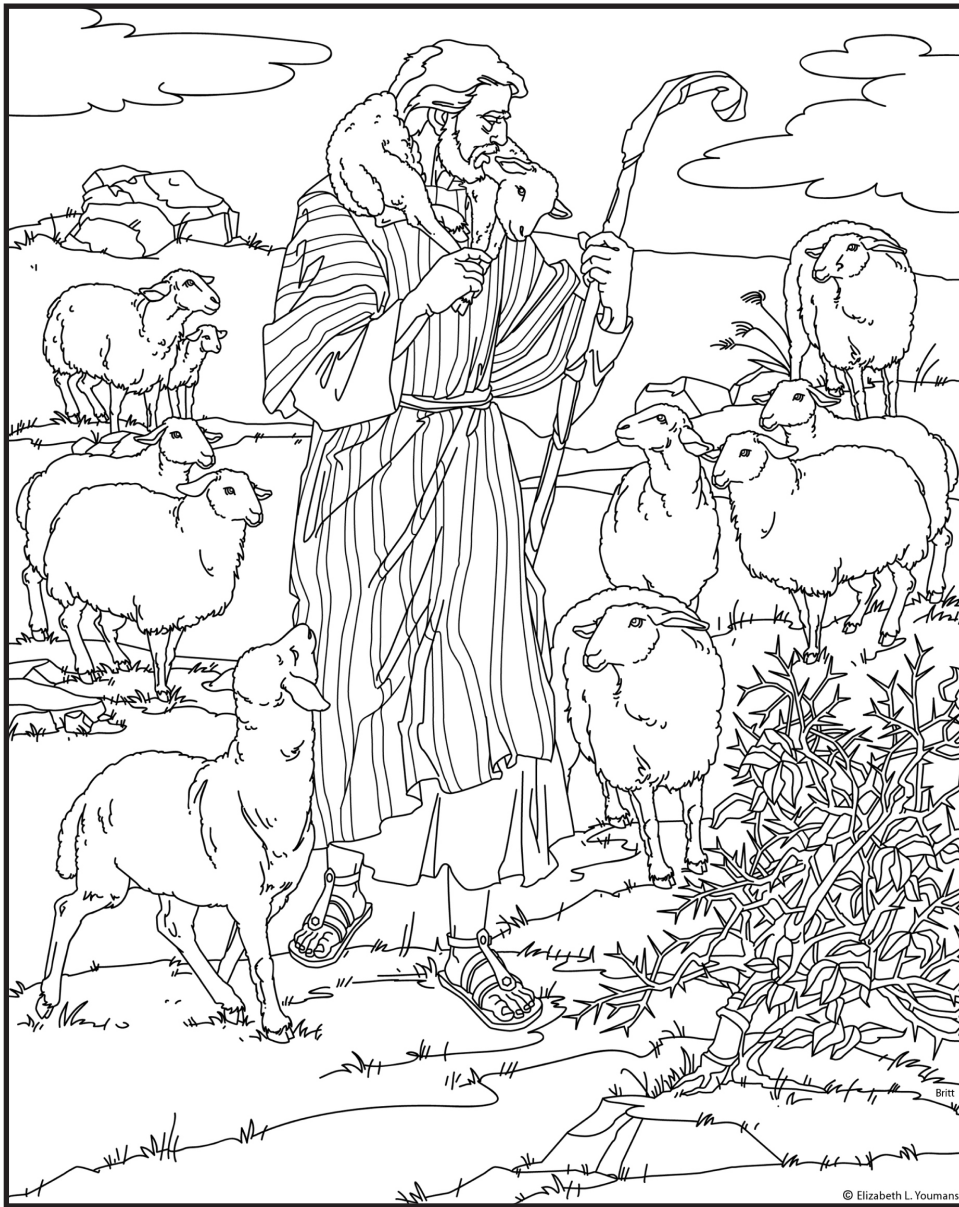
7. Introduce the children to the vocabulary Treasure Chest. Today's word is "potential." Define the word and pin the vocabulary card to the bulletin board.
8. Introduce the children to the Bible as God's Holy Word. Read Psalm 139 (New Living Translation can be found online: <http://www.biblegateway.com/passage>). Discuss the following distinctives of the living God's nature:
 - He is omnipresent (everywhere) and omniscient (all-knowing) nature
 - He knew us before we were born and has a plan for each of our lives.
 - He created each of us unique and very special. We are each "a promise!"
9. Teach the children the Gaither song: "You Are a Promise!"
10. Ask Reason Questions out loud and have children respond orally.
11. Establish the classroom rules of conduct. Teach the Christian principle of self-government. (See AMO® Teacher Manual.)
12. Introduce the AMO® Compact and distribute one to each child. Read the Compact together.

Have each student sign their personal copy and file it in their binder behind the Title Page.
13. Have an AMO® Compact signing ceremony. Ask each child to come forward and sign the classroom compact. If some of the children can't write yet, have an inkpad available and have them put their fingerprint on the compact. Be certain to write each child's name underneath. Hang the AMO® Compact on the wall in your classroom for future reference.
14. Introduce the children to Wellspring of Wonder®. Present "The Good Shepherd Parable." (Reference the AMO® Teacher Manual or the Wellspring of Wonder® Teacher Guide for storytelling instructions.)

Conclude Wellspring by sending the children to the art tables. Have them express through art what they received from the story of the parable.
15. Before dismissing the children, have them repeat the Oral Work.
16. You may end with a short prayer and a blessing for the children.

NAME

DATE



The Good Shepherd

AMO[®] COMPACT



WE, THE CHILDREN AND TEACHER OF THE AMO CLASS,
in order to:

- (1) form a joyful and loving, learning environment, (2) establish just rules,
 - (3) insure peace, (4) promote the nurture of each child, and
 - (5) secure the blessings of liberty,
- do establish this compact for governing ourselves.

We hereby pledge to do the following:

- ★ Choose to listen to the Good Shepherd and ask for His help in governing myself.
- ★ Come to class in a learning spirit prepared to participate in all activities.
- ★ Respect and honor the individuality of my teachers and my classmates.
- ★ Remain attentive and speak gently with permission.
- ★ Steward my property and time wisely, as well as the property and time of others.

SIGNATURE OF CHILD

As your teacher, I will guard your individuality,
learning time, liberty and safety for the benefit of all.

SIGNATURE OF TEACHER

GOD MADE ME SPECIAL

Poem by Rosalie J. Slater

Starting with Me

God made me special
Like no one else you see.
God made me a witness
To His diversity.

I Am God's Property

God made me for His purpose
He fashioned me to be
An image for His glory,
Almighty Father He.

potential

noun

**Anything that may be possible;
Possible qualities that may
be dormant or undetected.**

Wellspring of Wonder®

The Good Shepherd

Preparing:

Supporting Scriptures

Psalm 23; John 10

Theme

The Good Shepherd loves each one of His sheep and tenderly cares for them.

Setting

In a rural area

Underlay and Objects

green pasture underlay

blue water underlay

sheepfold

Story Figures

shepherd

5 sheep



Gathering:

Prepare the children's hearts and minds to fellowship with God and receive the lesson. Refer to "Preparing for Wellspring" in the *Wellspring of Wonder Introduction*.

Proclaiming:

John 10: 1-15 (Substitute the words "Good Shepherd" instead of "he" in verse 3b)

Open the Bible to the designated Scripture reading and hold it in front of you in the palms of your hands. Say the following before you read the Scripture:

This is the word of God.

His word is true.

His word is forever.

Listen to the word of God!

Connecting:

(Look at the children in the circle as you tell this part.) Long ago when Jesus walked on the Earth, He said and did many, many marvelous things. He gave good news to the poor. He healed the sick. He touched the blind and they could see. He touched the deaf and they could hear. He touched the lame and they could walk. He even called some who had died back to life again.

People were amazed at all these wonderful things, and they followed after Jesus and wondered, "Who is this man?"

Presenting:

Jesus, (Look at the children in the circle as you tell this first part. . . Pause . . . At this point, the storyteller enters the story with the children. Keep your eyes on the story figures.) knowing their question, answered them by saying, "I am the Good Shepherd." (Bring out basket from behind your back and place the **shepherd figure** on the floor. . . . Pause . . .) Now, the people knew about shepherds, and they realized that He was not just any shepherd, but a unique and very special shepherd – The Good Shepherd. (Move hand palm down over the shepherd figure.)

Although the Good Shepherd has many, many sheep, (*Begin to bring out the **sheep figures** one-by-one and place them behind the shepherd.*) He knows each one by name. His sheep recognize His voice and follow Him. (*Move the shepherd and the sheep one-by-one after Him. Do not rush.*) They will not listen to the voice of another. (*Shake head from side-to-side.*) They follow the voice of the Good Shepherd.

He tenderly watches over His sheep. No harm can come to them. (*Place hand lovingly palm down over each of the sheep.*)

At night, the Good Shepherd calls His sheep into the sheepfold. (*Place the **sheepfold** on the floor in front of the shepherd. Then place the shepherd beside the door of the sheepfold. Bring the sheep one-by-one into the sheepfold.*) The sheep lie down to rest in peace and safety. (*Place each sheep in a reclining position.*)

The Good Shepherd places Himself in front of the sheepfold and becomes the door! (*Lay the shepherd in the door to the sheepfold.*) Nothing can hurt the sheep because the Good Shepherd watches over them. (*Move hand palm down over the sheep, then over the shepherd.*)

In the morning, (*Place shepherd and sheep in an upright position.*) the Good Shepherd leads His sheep out to green pastures (*Place **green pasture** and **water underlay** on the floor.*) and close by to the quiet, still (*Say in a quiet voice.*) waters. He knows what they need. He knows the best way to go. He goes in front of them to show the way. The sheep are safe (*. . . Pause . . .*) and cannot get lost when they follow the Good Shepherd. (*Move shepherd*

toward the pasture and water underlay. Move the sheep one-by-one after the shepherd. Move your hand lovingly palm down over each of the sheep, as you move them after the shepherd.) The Good Shepherd cares deeply for His sheep. He loves them so much that He would give His life for them. (*Place hand lovingly palm down over the shepherd, then over the sheep. . . . Pause . . .*)

Wondering:

1. I wonder . . . Who are these sheep? They are so precious to the Good Shepherd. He loves them so much. He would give His life for them.
2. I wonder what you will remember about the Good Shepherd?
3. I wonder what part of the story that you like best?

Worshipping:

1. Conclude with prayer.
2. Sing the worship song.

Responding:

1. Have Gatekeeper lead the remaining participants to the art tables that are prepared with an art medium for the children's responses.
2. Place *The Good Shepherd* story underlays, objects, and figures in a basket. When there is time during the week, ask for a volunteer to come tell *The Good Shepherd Parable* to the rest of the class, using the story figures and underlays.

WELLSPRING
OF WONDER®



THE GOOD SHEPHERD STORY CARDS



CUT OUT CARDS ON DOTTED LINES

CUT
APART

PLACE all the story figures and underlays in a basket. Set your story cards within and use the story cards to help you tell the story until you make it “yours.” It’s best told when you don’t have to refer to the cards.

Have your participants sit in a semi-circle on the floor around you. Place the basket of figures in front of you. Tell the story slowly and quietly, gently and slowly moving the figures.

For children, have an art table set up with paints or colored pencils and white paper. Have them express on paper what they have heard.

It’s also wonderful to have one of the children retell the story using the wooden story figures. They love this, as well.

(Look at the children as you tell this part.)

Long ago when Jesus Christ walked on the earth, He said and did many, many marvelous things.

He gave good news to the poor. He healed the sick.

He touched the blind and they could see. He touched the deaf and they could hear.

He touched the lame and they could walk. He even called some who had died back to life again.

1

CUT
APART

Jesus, *(Look at the children in the circle as you tell this first part. . . Pause . . . At this point, the storyteller enters the story with the children. Keep your eyes on the story figures.)* knowing their question, answered them by saying, "I am the Good Shepherd." *(Bring out basket from behind your back and place the **shepherd figure** on the floor. . . . Pause . . .)* Now, the people knew about shepherds, and they realized that He was not just any shepherd, but a unique and very special shepherd—The Good Shepherd. *(Move hand palm down over the shepherd.)*

2

Although the Good Shepherd has many, many sheep,
*(Begin to bring out the **sheep** one-by-one and place them behind the shepherd figure. Place basket behind you.)* He knows each one by name. His sheep recognize His voice and follow Him. *(Move the shepherd and the sheep one-by-one after Him.)* They will not listen to the voice of another. *(Shake head from side-to-side.)* They follow the voice of the Good Shepherd.

He tenderly watches over His sheep. No harm can come to them. *(Place hand lovingly palm down over each of the sheep.)*

3

CUT
APART

At night, the Good Shepherd calls His sheep into the sheepfold. *(Place the **sheepfold** on the floor in front of the shepherd figure. Then place the shepherd beside the door of the sheepfold. Bring the sheep one-by-one into the sheepfold. Take your time.)* The sheep lie down to rest in peace and safety. *(Place each sheep in a reclining position.)*

The Good Shepherd places Himself in front of the sheepfold and becomes the door! *(Lay the good shepherd in front of the door to the sheepfold.)* **Nothing** can hurt the sheep because the Good Shepherd watches over them. *(Move hand palm down over the sheep, then over the shepherd figure.)*

4

In the morning, *(Place shepherd and sheep in an upright position.)* the Good Shepherd leads His sheep out to green pastures *(Place **green pasture** and **water underlay** on the floor.)* and close by to the quiet, still *(Say in a quiet voice.)* waters. He knows what they need. He knows the best way to go. He goes in front of them to show the way. The sheep are safe *(... Pause ...)* and cannot get lost when they follow the Good Shepherd. *(Move shepherd toward the pasture and water underlay. Move the sheep one-by-one after the shepherd. Move your hand lovingly palm down over each of the sheep, as you move them after the shepherd figure.)* The Good Shepherd cares deeply for His sheep. He loves them so much that He would give His life for them. *(Place hand lovingly palm down over the shepherd figure then over the sheep. ... Pause ...)*

5

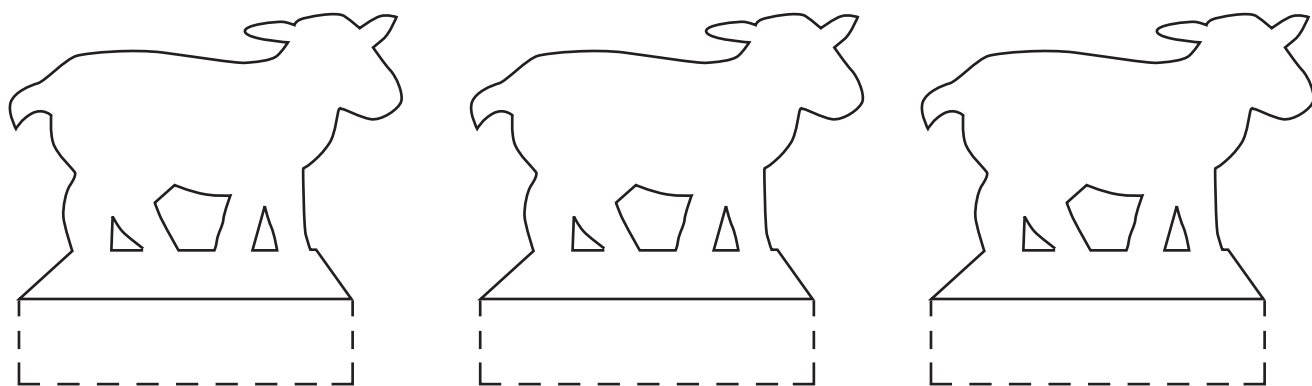
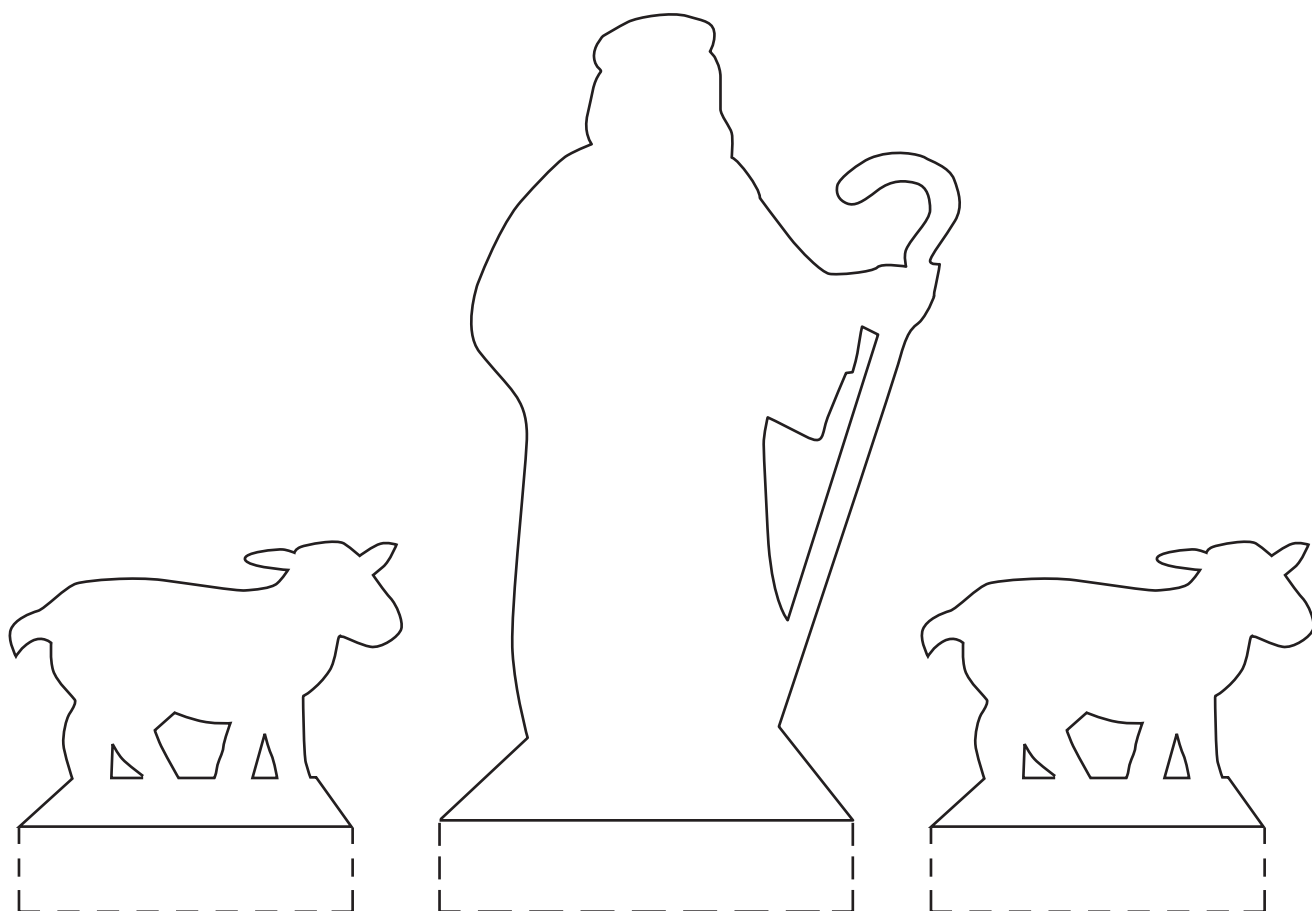
CUT
APART

WONDERING

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6

The Good Shepherd Patterns



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