

ROCK THE WORLD
PSALM 23 VERSE 4b
THY ROD AND THY STAFF THEY COMFORT ME
BRUCE REED
APRIL 24, 2005

<u>CHARACTER –PEOPLE—</u>	1	2	3	4
WORSHIP	Jessica/Amanda	Kywana	RoseAnn	Erin
VOICE OF SHEPHERD/ SHEPHERD	Bruce	Brian	Josh	Randy
DAD	Jeff	Gene	Jim	Jon
DAUGHTER	Kimi	Rachel	Taylor	Julie
SON	Alex	Timothy	Breck	Korey

CHARACTER—PUPPETS

SHEEP 1	Blake	Joe	Cathy	Berdie
SHEEP 2	Kristy B /Briana	Zack	Caleb	Summer
SHEEP 3	Summer/Kodi	Kalipe	Joseph	Lupe
COYOTE	Jar	Anthony C	Jeremy	Teacher Ray

PROPS—

Puppet stage
 Staff
 Rod
 Shepherds clothes
 Bush on top of puppet stage...near stage left
 Flowers on one half of puppet stage
 Desert backdrop
 Trees with dry river backdrop
 Hard hats (3)

SONGS—

YOU ARE MY TREASURE
LIGHT OF THE WORLD
THY WORD
ROCK THE FLOCK

SOUND FX—

BAAS OF SHEEP
CAR driving up and car doors opening and closing
WHISTLE –like when bomb falls

BACKGROUND MUSIC

Irish Type Music for sheep frolicking
Lots of background music!

OPENING SONG: YOU ARE MY TREASURE

CUE BACKGROUND MUSIC: IRISH SHEEP FROLICKING MUSIC

WORSHIP LEADER: GOOD MORNING KIDS, WE ARE STILL STUDYING PSALM 23? THIS WEEK OUR VERSE IS “THY ROD AND THY STAFF THEY COMFORT ME”. IN SCRIPTURE THE ROD SPEAKS OF GOD’S POWER, AUTHORITY AND HIS DEFENSE. SO, THE ROD IS A PICTURE OF GOD’S WORD; AND THE STAFF IS A PICTURE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. LET’S LOOK AT SOME EXAMPLES OF HOW GOD’S WORD AND HIS SPIRIT COMFORT US.

FADE BACKGROUND

(All sheep on one side of puppet stage and a bunch of flowers on the other)

CUE SOUND FX: SHEEP BAA’S

SHEEP 1: (very excited) HEY, GUYS, LOOK OVER THERE, THERE’S A WHOLE BUNCH OF OUR FAVOIRTIE FLOWERS THAT WE LIKE TO EAT. WHY DON’T WE GO OVER THERE?

SHEEP 2 (kind of bossy) **BECAUSE** THE SHEPHERD DOESN’T WANT US TO GO OVER THERE.

SHEEP 1 (rebellious and sassy) WELL, I’M GOING OVER THERE. THE SHEPHERD WILL NEVER NOTICE ME.

SHEEP 3: CURLY, YOU’LL BE SORRY!

SHEEP 1: (starts heading to other side of stage toward the flowers)

VOICE OF SHEPHERD: CURLY, DON’T WANDER AWAY FROM THE FLOCK.

CUE SOUND FX: sound of incoming whistle—like a BOMB

SHEEP 1: WHAT IS THAT SOUND—LOOK! UP IN THE SKY! IT’S A BIRD, IT’S A PLANE...OH NO! IT’S THE SHEPHERD’S ROD!

(hand comes up behind sheep with a woollf bat and hits sheep on head)

SHEEP 1: OUCH

VOICE OF SHEPHERD: NOW CURLY, GET BACK TO THE FLOCK!

SHEEP 1: I'M GOING , I'M GOING! I'M SORRY THAT I WAS DISOBEDIENT !

SHEEP 3: I TOLD YOU THAT YOU'D BE SORRY.....

CUE BACKGROUND MUSIC—SENSITIVE & SERIOUS

WORSHIP LEADER: KIDS, IT **IS** THE WORD OF GOD THAT COMES SWIFTLY TO OUR HEARTS, THAT COMES WITH SURPRISING SUDDENNESS TO CORRECT AND REPROVE US WHEN WE GO ASTRAY. IN HEBREWS 12 VERSE 6a, IT SAYS: “WHOM THE LORD LOVES –HE CHASTENS”. THAT MEANS, IF HE LOVES ME, HE’S GONNA TAKE THE TIME TO DISCIPLINE ME. WHY? BECAUSE IT’S FOR MY OWN GOOD . ANOTHER INTERESTING USE OF THE ROD IN THE SHEPHERD’S HAND IS TO EXAMINE AND COUNT THE SHEEP. LET’S WATCH.

(Enter Shepherd—from stage left, comes up to puppet stage)

FADE SERIOUS; CUE LIGHT HEARTED BUT OPEN

SHEPHERD: COME LITTLE LAMBS; IT’S TIME TO BE COUNTED AND EXAMINED.

SHEPHERD: (holds out rod for the sheep to pass under)

SHEEP 1: SHEPHERD, WHY DO WE NEED TO BE COUNTED?

SHEPHERD: WHEN YOU ARE COUNTED YOU COME UNDER THE SHEPHERD’S CONTROL AND HIS AUTHORITY, BUT ALSO, YOU ARE SUBJECT TO HIS MOST CAREFUL, INTIMATE, AND FIRSTHAND EXAMINATION.

SHEEP 2: IS THAT WHY YOU STOP US AS WE COME OUT OF THE CORRAL?

SHEPHERD: YES! WHEN I STOP YOU, I OPEN YOUR FLEECE WITH THE ROD. I DO THIS SO I CAN SEE IF THERE IS ANY HIDDEN DISEASE OR WOUNDS OR DEFECTS THAT CAN BE HIDDEN UNDER YOUR THICK WOOL. I LOOK YOU OVER VERY CAREFULLY TO SEE THAT ALL IS WELL.

(as he is doing this maybe pulls out some bugs, candy bars, etc) Candy bar, bugs, submarine? (Puppeteer hands these things to Shepherd from behind puppet stage)

SHEEP 3: SHEPHERD, IT BRINGS ME COMFORT TO KNOW THAT MY PROBLEMS CAN BE LAID BARE BEFORE YOU, BECAUSE YOU TAKE THE TIME TO REVEAL THEM TO ME.

SHEPHERD: (asking kids) KIDS, DAVID—A SHEPHERD LIKE ME, SAID IN PSALM 139:23-24, “SEARCH ME, O GOD, AND KNOW MY HEART: TRY ME, AND KNOW MY THOUGHTS, AND SEE IF THER BE ANY WICKED WAY IN ME, AND LEAD ME IN THE WAY EVERLASTING.”

WORSHIP LEADER: KIDS, IF WE WILL ALLOW IT, IF WE WILL SUBMIT TO IT, GOD BY HIS WORD WILL SEARCH US. THERE WILL BE NO PULLING THE WOOL OVER HIS EYES. HE WILL GET BELOW THE SURFACE, COME AND FIND US BEHIND THE WALL WHERE WE HIDE, HE’LL DIG DEEP TO FIND THE OLD SELF-LIFE AND ESPOSE THE THINGS THAT NEED TO BE MADE RIGHT.

FADE LIGHTHEARTED MUSIC

CUE SONG: LIGHTOF THE WORLD (short version)

CUE DANGEROUS SOUNDING SNIPPET

WORSHIP LEADER: FINALLY, THE SHEPHERD’S ROD IS AN INSTRUMENT OF PROTECTION, BOTH FOR HIMSELF AND HIS SHEEP WHEN THEY ARE IN DANGER. LET’S GO BACK TO THE SHEEP.

(Sheep by one side of the puppet stage when a coyote comes up on the other side)

ALL SHEEP 1 & 2 & 3: IT’S A COYOTE, HELP!!!!

COYOTE: (making fun of the sheep, in a high voice) OOO, IT’S A COYOTE—HELP! HELP! (normal mean voice) NOW, WHICH ONE OF YOU IS GOING TO BE MY DINNER?

SHEEP 2: YOU WON’T LAY A PAW ON ANY OF US, BECAUSE OUR GOOD SHEPHERD WILL PROTECT US.

COYOTE: HOW IS YOUR SHEPHERD GOING TO PROTECT YOU WHEN HE IS WAY OVER THERE ON THAT ROCK?

SHEEP 1: COME CLOSER AND YOU’LL SEE.

CUE SNEAKY SNIPPET

COYOTE: (start to come closer to sheep.)(say to kids) DO YOU HEAR SOMETHING?

CUE SOUND FX: INCOMING WHISTLE-- LIKE A BOMB

SHEEP: (Dip down and come up with hard hats on heads)

COYOTE: HEY, WHAT'S THAT SOUND, LOOK! UP IN THE SKY—IT'S A BIRD IT'S A PLANE—OH, NOOOOO! IT'S THE SHEPHERD'S ROD!

(hand comes up with a whuffle bat and hits Coyote on the head! Coyote falls down)

COYOTE: OUUUUCH!

VOICE OF THE SHEPHERD: NOW LEAVE MY SHEEP ALONE. NO ONE WILL TAKE THEM OUT OF MY HAND.

COYOTE: (peeking back up over edge of puppet stage) I'M GOING, I'M GOING ! JUST DON'T HIT ME AGAIN!

SHEEP 1: I TOLD YOU THAT OUR SHEPHERD WOULD PROTECT US.

WORSHIP LEADER: KIDS, WHEN JESUS CHRIST LIVED AMONG US, HE USED GOD'S WORD TO OVERCOME ENEMIES. REMEMBER HOW HE DEFEATED SATAN IN THE DESERT?

KIDS: YES

WORSHIP LEADER: THE SAME CAN BE TRUE FOR YOU. WHEN YOU ARE IN DANGER OR UNDER ATTACK, LEARN TO TRUST GOD'S WORD. RELY ON CHRIST'S POWERFUL PROMISES TO PROTECT YOU.

CUE DITTY: THY WORD: GUITAR?

CUE BACKGROUND SNIPPET- STRINGS LIKE SPIRIT MUSIC

WORSHIP LEADER: NEXT WE WILL SEE AN EXAMPLE OF HOW THE SHEPHERD STAFF IS A PICTURE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

SHEPHERD: (standing by puppet stage tending sheep)

(Dad, daughter and son standing at a distance and are watching the Shepherd at work)

(Shepherd and Sheep 1 pantomime all that the Dad and kids say)

CUE SOUND FX—CAR DRIVING UP AND DOORS OPEN & CLOSE

SON: (exhausted) YEA! WE'RE FINALLY STOPPING! IS THIS IT? ARE WE THERE YET?

CUE BACKGROUND MUSIC: IRISH TYPE MUSIC, restful, rolling hills

DAUGHTER

ER: DAD, WHAT ARE WE DOING OUT HERE WITH ALL THESE SMELLY SHEEP?

DAD: I'LL TELL YOU. I WAS DRIVING HOME THE OTHER DAY AND I STOPPED AND WAS WATCHING THE SHEPHERD WITH HIS FLOCK AND I SAW A GREAT ILLUSTRATION OF HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT WORKS IN OUR LIVES.

SON: WHAT DO YOU MEAN, DAD?

DAD: WATCH, DO YOU SEE THAT ONE SHEEP OVER THERE BY ITSELF?

SON AND DAUGHTER: YES, UH-HUH!

DAD: SEE HOW THE STAFF IS USED BY THE SHEPHERD TO REACH OUT AND CATCH INDIVIDUAL SHEEP AND DRAW THEM CLOSE TO HIMSELF. THE STAFF IS VERY USEFUL FOR THE SHEEP THAT NORMALLY TEND TO WANDER AT A DISTANCE FROM THE SHEPHERD.

DAUGHTER: I GET IT! THE SHEPHERD'S STAFF IS LIKE THE HOLY SPIRIT – "THE COMFORTER" WHO DRAWS FOLKS TOGETHER INTO PERSONAL FELLOWSHIP WITH ONE ANOTHER AND WITH JESUS.

DAD: THAT'S RIGHT ! NOW, WATCH! SEE HOW HE USES THE STAFF TO GUIDE HIS SHEEP.

SON: HEY, HE'S JUST USING THE TIP OF THE STAFF ON THE SIDE OF THE SHEEP.

DAD: YOU SEE THE SHEPHERD IS APPLYING JUST ENOUGH PRESSURE ON THE SIDE OF THE SHEEP TO GUIDE THEM WHERE HE WANTS THEM TO GO.

FADE BACKGROUND IRISH MUSIC

DAUGHTER: KIDS, HAVE YOU EVER FELT THE GUIDING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE?

SON: (to kids) MAYBE, YOU WERE DOING SOMETHING YOUR MOM OR DAD TOLD YOU NOT TO DO, AND THEN YOU FELT SOMETHING PUSHING YOU TO DO THE RIGHT THING.

CUE BACKGROUND – TROUBLE LOW SOUNDING OMINOUS

LITTLE LAMB: (gets stuck in bush) BAAAA, BAAAA, OOO, THAT HURTS!

DAUGHTER: LOOK AT THAT POOR LITTLE LAMB, HE’S STUCK IN A THORN BUSH!

DAD: WELL, KIDS, SHEEP ARE ALSO VERY STUBBORN CREATURES. THEY GET THEMSELVES INTO ALL KINDS OF TROUBLE JUST LOOKING FOR ONE MORE MOUTHFUL OF GREEN GRASS.

SON: DAD, THE SHEPHERD IS USING HIS STAFF TO FREE THE LAMB FROM THE THORN BUSH.

SHEPHERD: (pantomime the gentle and labored rescue of the little lamb out of the bushes)(Follow Dad’s talk below)

DAD: SOMETIMES, WE ARE JUST LIKE THAT LITTLE LAMB. WE ARE STUBBORN, AND SELF-WILLED. WE GET INTO SITUATIONS THAT WE CANNOT GET OUT OF OURSELVES.

CUE BACKGROUND SPIRIT SNIPPET AGAIN

THEN IN TENDERNESS, COMPASSION AND CARE, OUR SHEPHERD COMES TO US. HE TENDERLY LIFTS US BY HIS SPIRIT OUT OF THE DIFFICULTY AND TROUBLES.

SON & DAUGHTER: THANKS FOR THE LESSON, DAD!

WORSHIP LEADER: YOU SEE, KIDS, IT’S GOD’S WORD AND HIS HOLY SPIRIT THAT BRING US COMFORT.

WORSHIP LEADER: REPEAT AFTER ME:

THY ROD
AND THY STAFF
THEY COMFORT ME

LET’S PRAY: FATHER IN HEAVEN, YOU LOVE ME, AND THAT’S WHY YOU DISCIPLINE ME. HELP ME TO KNOW YOUR WORD AND TO KNOW WHEN YOUR HOLY SPIRIT IS WORKING IN MY LIFE. I WANT TO FOLLOW YOU. DON’T LET ME WANDER AWAY. USE YOUR ROD AND STAFF TO COMFORT ME ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE. IN JESUS NAME I PRAY AND EVERY ONE SAID: SO BE IT.!

CLOSING SONG: ROCK THE FLOCK /THY WORD