

THE BAD SHEPHERDS AND THE GOOD SHEPHERD

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE

Ezekiel 34:1-16

OPENING ACTIVITY – DO AS I SAY, NOT AS I DO

- The leader will select one person to start the game. The selected player will turn to the person on his or her left and say, "I am doing [insert verb]." For example, "I am brushing my teeth." However, the player will act out a difference action. For example, he or she will pretend to climb a ladder.
- The person on his or her left will then act out the action that was **spoken** aloud but say a different action. In this example, the player would pretend to brush his or her teeth but say something else, like, "I am walking a dog."
- Players must make it around the circle without making a mistake. If someone does make a mistake, they sit down. The game continues until one person is left standing or time is up.

I WONDER:

- I wonder what it's like to be a shepherd?
- I wonder why leaders are called shepherds?
- I wonder why the bad shepherds weren't taking good care of the people?

DIGGING DEEPER:

- Who were the bad shepherds in today's story? Who were the bad shepherds in the time of Jesus?
- What are some things that a good shepherd (of people) might do today? What are some things that a bad shepherd might do today?
- Can you think of anyone who has been a good shepherd in your life?
- Has God called you to shepherd anyone? If so, how will you be a good shepherd for them?