Aunt Fox

The Lost Sheep



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Synopsis

A shepherd has 100 sheep. When he realizes that one of them has gone missing, he leaves the 99 in the pasture and goes into the hills to search for the one that is lost until he finds it.



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AGE	CATEGORY	READING TIME
4-10 years	Biblical	4 min

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Once upon a time, there was a good shepherd who cared for his one hundred little sheep with great love. Late in the afternoon, he began counting them in the fold: "97, 98, 99... Oh dear, where is the last one? One is missing!"



Even with ninety-nine safely accounted for, the shepherd did not hesitate. He grabbed his staff and his lantern and hurried into the dark forest, calling out the name of his lost little sheep.





He searched among the tall trees and crossed a muddy swamp. He became quite dirty and tired, but he did not give up. He knew the wilderness could be dangerous, and that the little sheep must be feeling very afraid.



He climbed high, rocky mountains until he heard a faint "baa!" Hidden behind a rock, shivering from the cold—there she was! The shepherd smiled with joy and rushed to embrace her.



With great tenderness, he picked up the little sheep and placed her upon his shoulders. He walked all the way back home, his heart overflowing with happiness at having found his friend.



Upon reaching the pasture, he gathered his neighbors to celebrate. High above, the sky lit up, and the angels clapped their hands, rejoicing at the return of the sheep that had been lost and was now found.



The shepherd looked up at the stars and said, "There is more joy in heaven over one lost sheep that returns home than over ninety-nine that were already safe in the fold!"



THE END

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