

VOCATIONS SUNDAY 2018

All age worship ideas - Close to God's heart

Sung Call to Worship

Come, now is the time to worship.

Talk about

In groups or if your congregation is small talk together about your talents, hobbies, gifts, the things you enjoy or are good at. Write on your sheep template the things about you that you shared or draw a picture or decorate your sheep how you want to, make it unique.

Reflection/meditation

Sung response 'I'm Special' Mission Praise 325

The Shepherd knows His sheep he calls them by name.

When we see a crowd, it is just a sea of faces.

We see people, passers-by.

Hundreds of faces a day.

Unknown, nameless.

That is what we see.

But not so with the Shepherd.

To Him behind every face is a person.

With problems, gifts, talents and history.

Every face with a story to tell.

Every face is precious.

Every child is special.

The Shepherd knows his sheep.

He knows each one by name.

The Shepherd knows you.

To the Shepherd you are special.

Your name is engraved on his heart.

Sung response 'I'm Special' Mission praise 325

Reading

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyglswGKulc>

Jones, S 'The Jesus story book Bible', 2007, Zonderkidz. *The Good Shepherd*. P130

Prayers of concern

Thank you, good shepherd for keeping us close to your heart. For wrapping us up like new born lambs and tucking us under your coat, warm and safe and close to your heart.

Help us God to keep others close to our hearts and so reflect in who we are a little bit of who you are.

Help us to take an interest in others, to ask about what is going on in their lives.

Help us to see others needs, and when we can meet them. Help us to see what you see.

Help us to be humble and brave enough to show real love and affection to those around us.

Help us to listen to others, and show to them that they are precious and matter to us. Give us ears to hear the needs of others.

Through our actions and words may others experience what it means to be held close to your heart.

Amen.

Sharing of the peace

Ask the children or able members of the congregation to give out chocolate hearts, or a small gift that symbolises peace as the congregation sing 'Peace to you' Mission praise 556.

Blessing

May God the Father hold you close to his heart

May God the Son be the gate keeper of all your coming and goings

And may God the Spirit lead and guide through all your days.

Through each one of us here today may others know that they are
seen for who they are and loved by God.

Amen