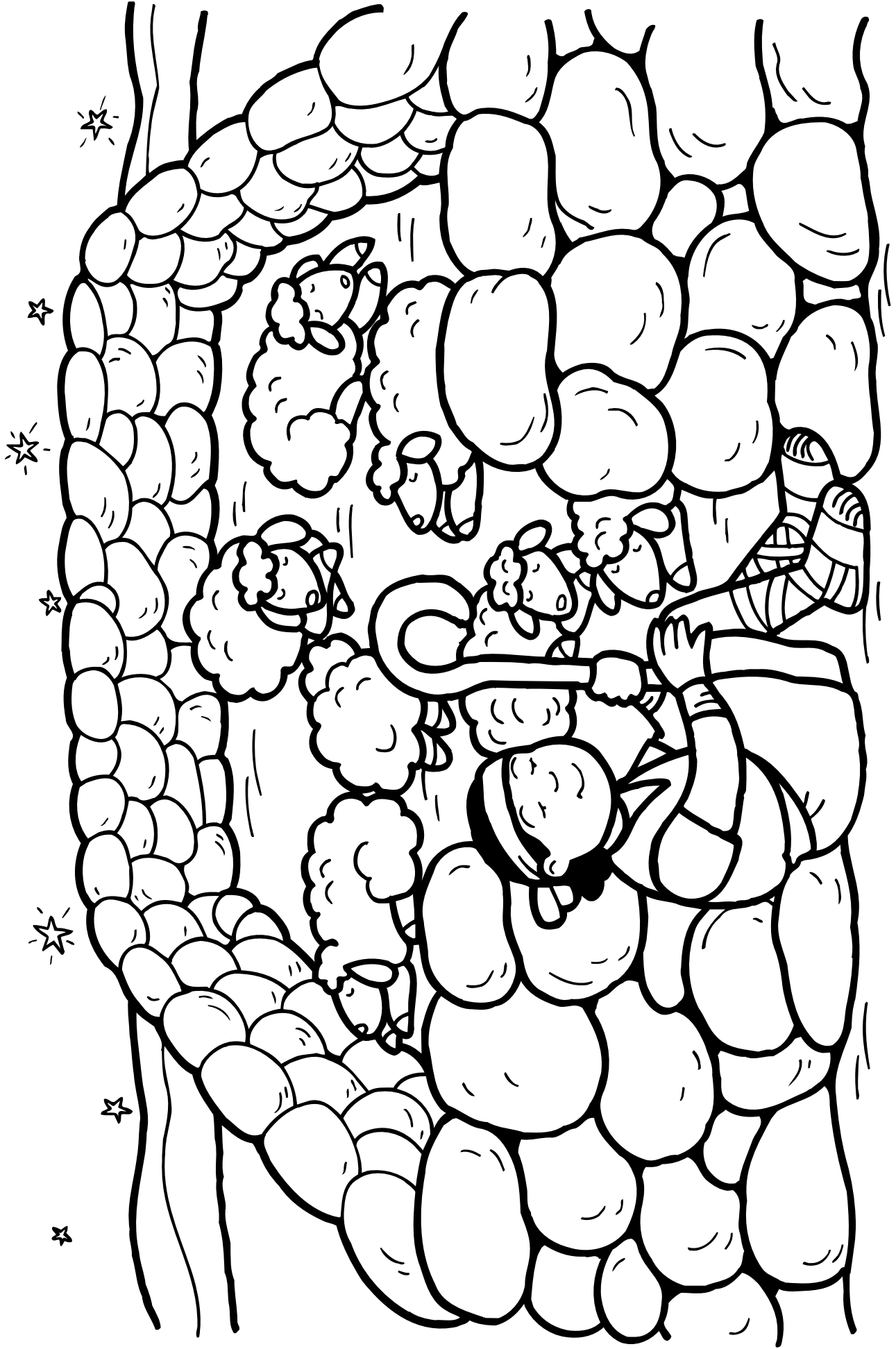


Jesus tells about the good shepherd.

John 10:7-18



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Jesus told about a shepherd who took good care of his sheep. Each day he took them to a good place to eat green plants. He found cool water for them to drink. He scared away all the wolves that tried to sneak up on the sheep while they were eating. He knew the name of each sheep. The sheep knew the shepherd's voice, too. They would not come when a stranger called them.

When nighttime came, the shepherd led his sheep to a sheepfold made of rock walls. There was only one doorway. The shepherd counted his sheep as they walked in. When each sheep was inside, the shepherd would lie down to sleep right across the doorway! That way, no robber or wolf could get

into the fold and hurt the sheep. The shepherd protected his sheep.

Jesus told the people listening to the story that they were like sheep! And Jesus said He was like the good shepherd.

Jesus said, "I am the One who protects the sheep. My sheep will be safe because I am their shepherd. I have come so that My sheep might have the best kind of life there is!"

"I am the Good Shepherd," Jesus said. "I give My own life for My sheep." Jesus meant that He loves people so much that He was going to die on the cross to pay for the wrong things we do.