

# A Scavenger Hunt in Luke: AFTER THE MANGER



Please see video tutorial on my Anyday Blessings YouTube channel. This 14-Day Christmas Bible study is something I personally created for use with my kids. I am sharing it with you in hopes that it exalts the Savior among your family this holiday season. Please direct any friends with whom you wish to share this study to [anydayblessings.com](http://anydayblessings.com) instead of photocopying or digitally sharing it.

You will need:

- 14 index cards
- a shepherd doll, figure or cardstock cutout
- The Bible

Each day, there will be a script to copy onto an index card, front and back. The Hiding Spot listed at the top of each day's entry is where the child will "find" the shepherd and the index card. I highly suggest watching the tutorial on YouTube if you have any questions.

## Day 1

Hiding Spot - breakfast table or other place where your kiddos will see it all at the same time

Index Card:

(On front) Hi there! Do you know who I am? I'm Shepherd (name) and I'm on a mission. So many people know us shepherds from the Christmas story - the night Baby Jesus was born. Yet, I want everyone to know what happened next! So, I'm going to lead you on a mission around your home to discover the rest of the story. Are you up for the challenge? If so, turn the card over for the first mission clue. It's found in God's Word. The Bible will be our super duper important guide for this entire mission!

(On reverse) Each day you'll have a clue to help you find me the next day. Today, I'm actually going to give you two clues since this will be your first task on our mission. I thought I'd give you a little extra help. Clue #1 is in Luke 1:26-38 and Clue #2 is in Luke 2:1-14. (Hint: pay special attention to 1:30 and 2:7. They will give you a clue as to where to find me hiding tomorrow!)

## Day 2

Hiding Spot - In or near the nativity scene, photo or picture book. (We have a Precious Moments Nativity set and I place our shepherd near Mary.)



# A Scavenger Hunt in Luke:

## AFTER THE MANGER



### Index Card:

(On front) You did it! You found me! Now turn the card over for today's clue to see where Jesus went after He left the manger.

(On reverse) Read Luke 2:25-32 see if you can figure out my next hiding spot. (Hint: look closely at verse 27.)

### **Day 3**

Hiding Spot - Next to a photo of a church. (We had a photo of our children's dedication service and put the shepherd doll next to it. You could also put your church website on your laptop. You may need to help your children understand the correlation between the temple as the OT place of worship and the church as today's place of worship.)

### Index Card:

(On front) Woohoo! Another clue solved! Now we know that Jesus did not stay in the manger. But where did He grow up? What was He like as a boy? I bet you'd like to know. Let's go!

(On reverse) Read Luke 2:41-52. Your clue is in verse 46 and is a hint to where I'll be next. See you tomorrow!

### **Day 4**

Hiding Spot - Your family Bible time spot or homeschool space. Emphasized that Jesus was a learner and asked questions of His teachers. (I also took the opportunity to pray for our Sunday School teachers and thank the Lord for them.)

### Index Card:

(On front) You are doing SOOOO well! You are solving clues like a pro. Isn't it wonderful to know that Jesus understands what it's like to grow up? He can help you! And God everyone just how special Jesus is. Read and see!

(On reverse) Jesus is more than a boy/man. He is God! But how do we know that? Let's go on the search in Luke 3:21-22 to find out. Can you figure out the hint in these verses to discover where I'll be tomorrow?



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## **Day 5**

Hiding Spot - The bathtub

Index Card:

(On front) Look at you go! Great job! Isn't it amazing what happened at Jesus' baptism?! Do you remember? It is just one of the amazing signs that God gave to show us that Jesus is God. Let's go discover more!

(On reverse) When God sent the Holy Spirit down, Jesus began to use the many powers that He set aside. Let's see how others responded to Jesus now. Read Luke 3:23 to discover how old Jesus is in today's clue. Then, read Luke 4:1-2, 13-15, and 28-30 to see what happened.

## **Day 6**

Hiding Spot - If you have it, a "cliff" in your backyard. You could also put it at the top of a staircase or other high point in your home. (We actually have a ravine in our yard so I put the shepherd there before my kids woke up.)

Index Card:

(On front) Another clue solved! Thanks for finding me before I fell. Just like me, Jesus moved around, too. Let's follow Him and see what He wants us to learn.

(On reverse) Jesus started to travel to many places to tell people that God had sent Him. But He did not go alone. Who went with him? Read Luke 4:43 and 5:12-16. He had some special instructions for these followers. Some of his instructions are in Luke 6:27-36. Your clue to find me next is in verse 30.

## **Day 7**

Hiding Spot - Designated donation spot or money jar for offering. (In our home, we have a place to put things that are heading to Goodwill. We also used to have a place where we collected loose change to gather for a special offering at church.)



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## Index Card:

(On front) I thought I'd trick you this time, but you are too clever. Are you amazed at all you are learning about Jesus' life? I bet you are...but just in case, listen to this: Jesus made people well without medicine! We often need medicine and doctors that God gave us to make us well. Yet, Jesus just spoke or touched a sick person to heal him/her. His miracles were also used to prove that He is God.

(On reverse) Jesus didn't heal people just so that their bodies would be better. He did it so they would listen and believe what he taught them. Listen for a special word in Luke 8:4-8 that describes how Jesus taught people. Then read Luke 8:11-15 and listen for your clue to find me in verse 15. Good luck!

## **Day 8**

Hiding Spot - Near some fruit in your kitchen

## Index Card:

(On front) That was a yummy clue, wasn't it? It is a good reminder to think about what kind of "fruit" I am making in my life. I'm so glad we've gone on the search for Jesus beyond the manger. Let's keep going!

(On reverse) Do you know that Jesus didn't only teach large crowds? He also taught people in their homes. Wow! What would you do if Jesus came to your house?! Let's read Luke 10:38-42 and see what Jesus would want us to do. Look carefully for a hint to my next hiding spot.

## **Day 9**

Hiding Spot - On the floor near a couch/chair leg in your living room

## Index Card:

(On front) Can you tell that I'm pretending to be Mary on the floor, listening at Jesus' feet? I hope you figured it out. Let's see how you do with today's clue.

(On reverse) Jesus didn't stay in one place too long. He traveled around, teaching crowds of people. I wonder if His disciples ever felt worried or scared going to so many different places, never really having a home. Read Luke 12:22-32 and then find me tomorrow hiding in a place that shows how God provides YOUR needs.



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## AFTER THE MANGER



### Day 10

Hiding Spot - In the kitchen pantry or fridge

Index Card:

(On front) Here I am! You're doing an awesome job following me around. I hope you are learning many things about Jesus' life on earth. He came to show us so many things. I hope you are being a good listener!

(On reverse) Not everyone paid attention to the message Jesus taught - some just wanted to see the miracles. They missed the greatest miracle of all - Salvation! I hope you don't miss it. Read Luke 17:11-19. Be like the one and not like the nine. Then come and find me, giving praise to God.

### Day 11

Hiding Spot - Near a hymnal, musical instrument or music player

Index Card:

(On front) Our search is coming to a close. Only a few more visits to learn all we can about why Jesus came and what He did after He left the manger. Before you read today's clue, tell me something you've discovered on our journey.

(On reverse) We can be just like the 9 men from our clue yesterday - selfish and unthankful. It takes work to remember to praise God and think of His goodness. We cannot do it on our own. This was a lesson a powerful, rich ruler learned. Read about him in Luke 18:18-27 and find me tomorrow near the thing he loved most.

### Day 12

Hiding Spot - Near the child's piggy bank, wallet or inside mommy's purse

Index Card:

(On front) It's hard to think of giving up things that we have, especially money, isn't it? Yet, Jesus spent His time showing people something of far greater worth. Look in Luke 19 to find someone else who had a hard decision to make about money.

(On reverse) Some people, like Zaccheus and the Samaritan with leprosy, listened to Jesus' teaching and followed Him. Many people did not. Was Jesus angry at them? How did He react? Read Luke 19:41-44 and then come find me where Zaccheus met Jesus.



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## **Day 13**

Hiding Spot - In the Christmas tree

### Index Card:

(On front) Tomorrow will be my last visit with you. We've seen many things that Jesus did after leaving the manger. I hope you are starting to see why He came.

(On reverse) The next part of Jesus' life is hard to read. No one likes to hear about suffering. However, today we need to see how Jesus prepares His people for a very hard time. He lets them know that not everyone will want to hear or believe all that He is and all that He did. Read Luke 21:16-17 to find Jesus' promise.

## **Day 14**

Hiding Spot - Near pictures of family and friends (I took this opportunity to pray for unsaved family and friends. We asked the Lord that He would open their eyes and see the Savior beyond the manger.)

### Index Card:

(On front) It wasn't long after Jesus spoke to His followers that He gave up His life for us on the cross. Listen real close kiddos - the cross was the purpose of the manger. Jesus came to the manger in order to obey and glorify God on the cross through redemption of sins. If you are not sure why the cross is so important, now would be a good time to ask the grownup who is helping you on this search.\*

(On reverse) There is no clue to reveal today, but I do have one last passage of Scripture to share with you. The story continues - and it does so with all those who believe and follow Jesus today. Jesus did not stay in a grave - He rose again and is alive today in Heaven! Before He went back to Heaven, He met with His disciples to tell them what they should do until He comes back to Earth. Read Luke 24:36-47. Look closely in verse 47 to see how the story continues with you and me - if you trust and follow Jesus. Thanks for joining me on the search Merry Christmas!

\*I highly recommend the book, I Believe in Jesus by John McArthur to help guide your child through understanding the Gospel.

