Winston's Race

Key Word: **Knows**

Verse: I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
John 10:11

Winston really wanted to win the sports day race. He had really practiced hard and then he prayed. Before he went to sleep he closed his eyes and said, "Please God, make me win the race." When the day came, everyone set off. Winston was behind at first, then he was ahead of everyone. He was almost at the finish line when he tripped and fell. There was a pain in his leg and he screamed. Winston quickly found himself in the hospital.

His leg was broken. The doctor said it would have to go into a cast. Winston was very disappointed about the race. "I'll never pray again," he thought to himself. "God is supposed to be a good shepherd and I am one of his little lambs, but he doesn't care about me. He didn't let me win the race, even though I asked and asked. He even made me fall over and break my leg."

It was months before Winston could run again. When his leg came out of the cast, his knee was stiff and his leg was thin. The therapist said his muscles needed building up, but she didn't tell him that it would be painful. Many times Winston wanted to give up on his exercises because they hurt so much. He thought his leg would never be like the other one again. But he worked hard and eventually began to walk without his crutches.

When the therapy was over Winston found he couldn't run very well. He remembered the training he had done for the race and he started to run again in the evenings, very slowly at first and not very far, but he kept building up each day. He found he was enjoying all his physical exertion.

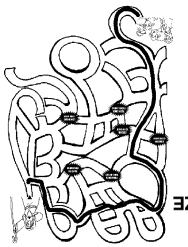
When sports day came the next year, Winston entered the race. He didn't win, but he came in third. He knew that if he kept working he would win eventually. When the prizes were given out, Winston heard his name called. "You've won the best race of all, Winston," said his teacher. "We've all watched you struggle, but you never gave up. You've won a race against yourself and you've learned to be strong and courageous. You will have that strength for the rest of your life, and this trophy is for your courage."

It was the biggest thrill of Winston's life. When he got home, he went to his bedroom and knelt down beside his bed and closed his eyes. "Thank you, God," he whispered quietly.

Questions

Why was Winston a true winner?

What does Jesus mean when he says he is our Good Shepherd?



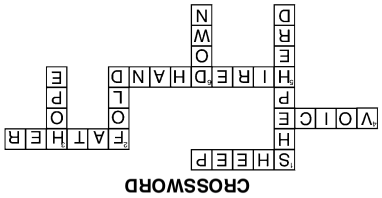
MAZE

Answers

CRYPTOGRAM

I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

CROSSWORD



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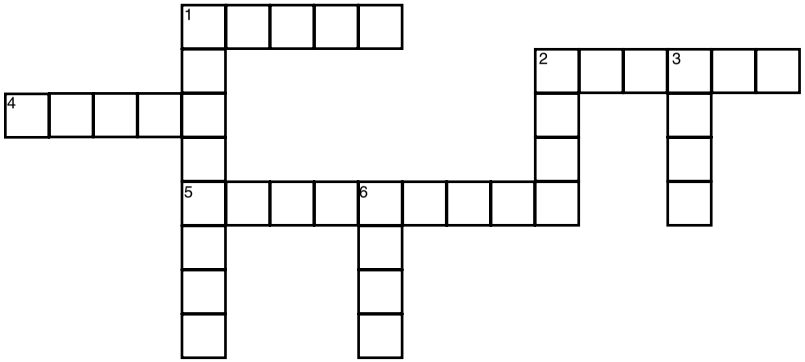
Gospel Grams 2

Today's Gospel Story is from **John 10:11-18**

Crossword Puzzle

Complete this crossword puzzle using the clues from today's Gospel story. Read the clues, then fill in the squares below with the answers.



ACROSS
1. Shepherds watch over these.
2. Another name for God.
4. Sheep listen for the shepherd's ___. (v.16)
5. The ___ ___ runs away. (v.13)

DOWN
1. He lays down his life for the sheep. (v.11)
2. Some sheep do not belong to this ___. (v.16)
3. Because Jesus lays his life down, it gives us ___.
6. Jesus can lay his life ___ for his sheep. (v.17)

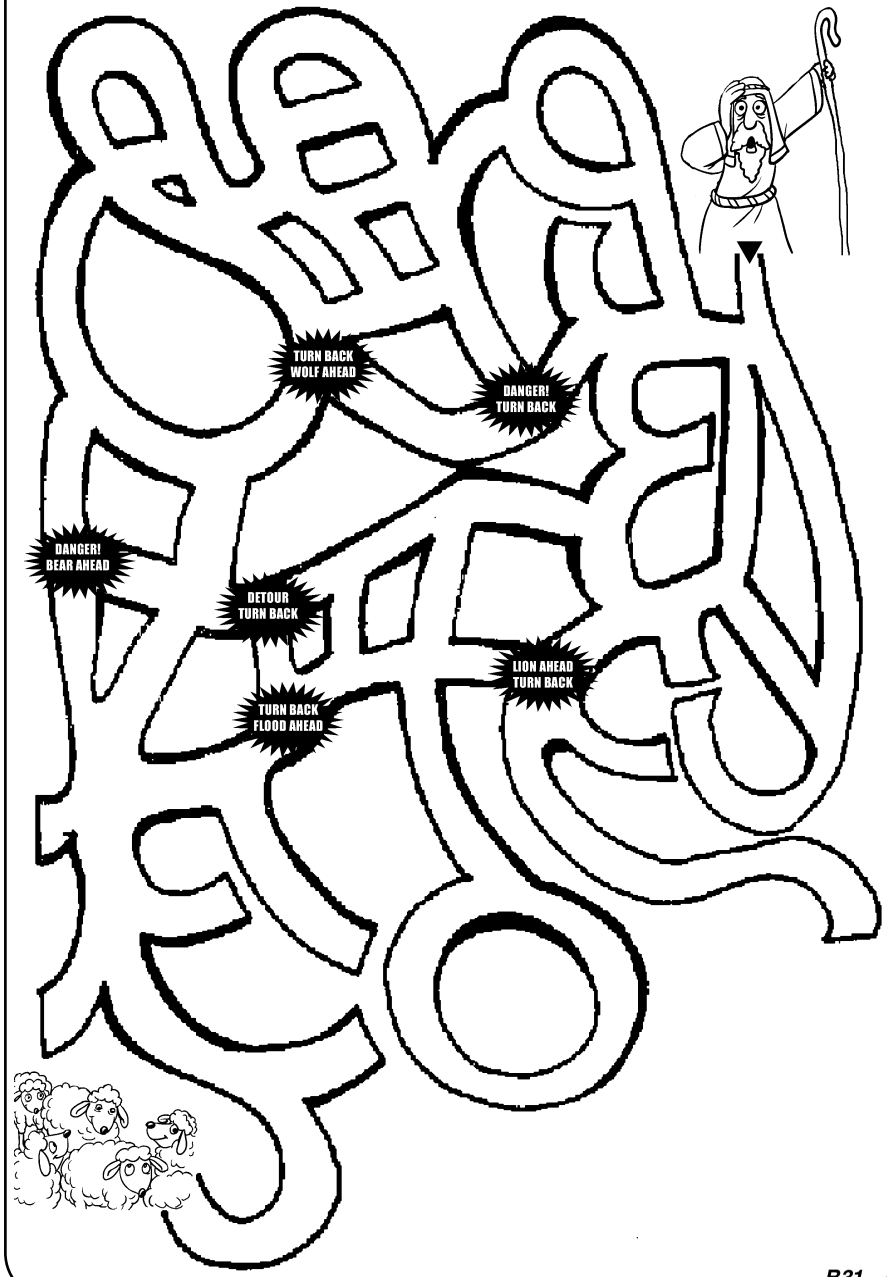
Cryptogram Puzzle

Solve the puzzle (a verse from today's Gospel story) by figuring out the code and placing the corresponding letter in the space above that number. Two letters have been done for you.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
												2		12											

___	___	M	___	___	___	___	0	0	___
1	10	2	3	24	16	4	12	12	20

___	___	___	___	___	___	___	___	.
18	24	16	21	24	16	11	20	

Maze Puzzle

The shepherd needs to find his sheep so he can protect them from harm and the wolves and lions and bears that are lurking about. Help the shepherd find his way by drawing a line from him to his sheep.