

Shep's Story

You know, many of us never realize just how lucky we are to have a safe place to live, people who love us and take care of us, and enough food to eat. Sometimes it's easy to forget that many of our neighbors don't have a hot dinner each evening at the kitchen table or a warm bed to sleep in at night.

I remember one day when I was out with the flock, grazing in the field. I was playing a game of Hide-and-Go-Sheep with my friends Shirley and Sheldon. Sheldon was counting to a hundred while me and Shirley went looking for good places to hide. Shirley tried to hide behind a rock near the little creek, but you could still see her tail sticking out. After looking around a bit, I found the perfect hiding place, under the briar bush up on the hill. It was a tight fit, but I squeezed under the bush and waited for Sheldon to start looking for us.

I heard him find Shirley pretty quickly, and then they both started looking for me. But I was hidden so well that they were totally stumped! I waited and waited, but Sheldon and Shirley had no idea where I went. Pretty soon, I got sleepy and decided to take a little nap. I slept for such a long time that it was dark when I woke up! And cold! I was hungry, so I came out from under the briar bush and started looking for my friends. But they were nowhere to be found!

The whole flock was gone! I was alone and scared and I didn't know what to do!

But then I saw the shepherd coming up the hill, looking for me. "Shep," he said, "we were all so worried about you! Sheldon and Shirley couldn't find you, so they came to me to make sure you were all right."

"I'm so glad you came looking for me," I answered. "I was getting so scared being all alone!"

"You know, Shep," the shepherd continued, "not everyone has someone looking out for them. You're lucky that you have friends who care so much about you. Sometimes folks get lost and it's not always their fault. We have to do our best to help each other out whenever we can."

That's what is so great about Shepherd's Table. They're all about helping people find their way home. Sometimes the people we help need a hot meal or a warm blanket or just a friendly face to talk to. Their friends at Shepherd's Table help out however they can. What are some of the ways you can think of to help your friends in need at Shepherd's Table?