Candy Canes And Snowflakes KZ Lesson Sun am 12/11/22

# Memory Verse: Psalm 23:1 NKJV

23 The Lord *is* my shepherd; I shall not want.

Target Thought: Jesus is all that we need.

The candy cane is a long-time Christmas tradition. Everywhere we look we see them. They are used as decorations on Christmas trees and, of course, they are one of the most popular of all Christmas treats. I have heard several stories about the history and meaning of the candy cane. I think that the candy cane can teach us a few things about Christmas. First of all, if you look at the candy cane like this (J) it looks like the letter J. Jesus starts with the letter J, so that should remind us of Jesus and help us to remember that Christmas is Jesus' birthday. If you look at the candy cane like this it looks like a shepherd's crook. The shepherd used his crook to keep the sheep from wandering away from the flock and getting lost or eaten by a wild animal. The Bible says, "The Lord is my shepherd." The candy cane should remind us that Jesus is our shepherd and he will keep us from wandering away and getting lost or hurt.

The candy cane is mostly white. White is a symbol of purity. That should remind us that Jesus was the spotless Lamb of God and that because he came to be the sacrifice for our sin, we can become as white as snow. As you know, the candy cane has three red stripes. The Bible tells us that before he was crucified, Jesus was beaten with a whip which made blood-red stripes across his back. The Bible says that we are healed by those stripes. The stripes on the candy cane should remind us that Jesus suffered and died, so that we can have everlasting life, and that He is the good Shepard. To many people, the candy cane is a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time or just a piece of candy to be eaten and enjoyed. I hope that this year, every time you see a candy cane, you will be reminded of who Jesus is to us.

Now for the snowflakes, God loves us so much that has He made all of us unique and special, there are no two of us exactly alike. Just like snowflakes, there are no two alike, each of them are unique and different and special in its own way. God gave us snowflakes to remind us that we are all one of a kind to Him and that He made each of us so different that He has a special unique plan for all us. Remember Jer 29:11. Not only has God made us so special but the plans He has for us are special also. That is why He sent Jesus to us to make us His own so that we can all do the special plans He has for us. Jesus has not only saved us but He has a special plan for all of us, no two alike and each special in its own way.

Lord, we thank you that Jesus is the Good Shepherd who keeps us from harm. We thank You that You have made us special and unique. Help us to remember that Jesus is the true meaning of Christmas. In Jesus name we ask Amen.

Name two things a candy cane reminds us of.

The stripes on the candy cane reminds us of what?

What does a snowflake remind us of?