

“The Good Shepherd”

John 10

Pastor Jim Oakley – September 24, 2017

ABF/Small Group Guide

Do you recognize the Good Shepherd’s voice?

1. Jesus Illustrates Good and Bad leadership (v. 1-16)

The Good Shepherd/ Gate	Thief, Robber, Stranger, Hired Hand
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shepherd - Enters through the gate (v. 1) • Gatekeeper opens gate for Him (v. 2) • Sheep listen to and know his voice (v. 3,4) • He knows his sheep by name (v. 3) • He leads his sheep out (v. 3,4) • His sheep follow (v. 4) • Gate - enter by him and you will be saved (v. 9) • Sheep come in/go out and find pasture (v. 9) • Shepherd - Comes to give life to the full (v. 10b) • He lays down his life for his sheep (v. 11,15) • Knows sheep and sheep know him (v. 14) • Has other sheep not of this pen who will listen to his voice (v. 16) • Will lead one flock (v. 16) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thief - Climbs in some other way (v. 1) • Stranger - Not recognized by sheep (v. 5) • Thief - Sheep do not listen (v. 5, 8) • mission to steal, kill, and destroy (v. 10) • Hired Hand - does not own the sheep (v. 12) • Runs away when attacked (v. 12) • doesn’t care for the sheep (v. 13)

2. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life (v. 17-21)

3. Jesus clearly confirms His divine identity (v. 25-38)

4. Not everyone recognizes the Good Shepherd’s voice (v. 39-42)

READ AHEAD FOR NEXT WEEK: John 11:1-44

- Contrast the qualities of a good leader and a bad leader.
- Jesus called the Pharisees bad leaders. What characteristics does He identify in the Thief, Stranger, and Hired Hand (all intended to be synonymous)?
- How do those characteristics fit the Pharisees?
- Which of the qualities of the Good Shepherd stand out most to you?
- How do you see those qualities in Jesus?
- Worshipfully read aloud through Psalm 23 and reflect on Christ as the Good Shepherd.
- How do you know if you are one of Jesus’ sheep? What qualities do they have?
- When did you start to follow the Good Shepherd’s voice?
- How do you distinguish His voice from others that compete for your attention?
- When might it be important to be reminded that Jesus is the Good Shepherd?
- How will you live different in light of this passage in John this week?
- How can we pray for you in light of this passage this week?