

# *Light and Life:* Jesus in the Gospel of John

## Today's message: **The Good Shepherd**

### **John 10:1-15 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup> "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. <sup>2</sup> But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." <sup>6</sup> This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup> So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. <sup>11</sup> **I am the good shepherd.** The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.

**Background:** The excommunicated, formerly blind man of John 9

A **picture** of 1<sup>st</sup> century shepherding:

**A few presuppositions** to help us understand this passage:

People are like \_\_\_\_\_, and sheep need a \_\_\_\_\_.

The world is full of people who want to \_\_\_\_\_.

3 decisions I have to make ...

Who will I \_\_\_\_\_?

What will I \_\_\_\_\_?

Who will I \_\_\_\_\_?

There is only one Good \_\_\_\_\_

To call Jesus "good" is to call him \_\_\_\_\_! (See Mark 10:17)

**KEY:** The **2-way relationship** of shepherd to his sheep:

He \_\_\_\_\_ them (by name)

They \_\_\_\_\_ him (and respond to his voice)

Is my relationship with Jesus, The Good Shepherd, "**2-way**"?  
(See: Matthew 7:21-23)

**Jesus, the Compassionate Shepherd:**

**Matthew 9:36 (ESV)**

<sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Only the shepherd ...

... \_\_\_\_\_ the sheep.

... \_\_\_\_\_ the sheep.

... \_\_\_\_\_ to the sheep.

... \_\_\_\_\_ for the sheep.

**Matthew 9:37-38 (ESV)**

<sup>37</sup> Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;  
<sup>38</sup> therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

*A note to Christians on 'harvest', prayer, and responsibility:*

**Conclusion:** Who is my shepherd?

(see Psalm 23)