

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

The Book of John

Lesson 10

Jesus the Good Shepherd

John 10

REFLECTION

Review John 9. What can you learn about Jesus from His healing of the man born blind? How can his story help you? Reflect on the progression of his faith? How has your faith progressed?

FOCUS VERSE

I AM the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep (John 10:11).

SECTION 1 – I AM the Door

Jesus continued to confront the Jewish leaders after the blind man He healed was removed from the temple. He used the illustration of shepherds tending the sheep, which they should have easily understood, to teach them the relationship of Himself as the *Good Shepherd* to His sheep, those who believe in Him.

Read John 10:1-10.

1. How does Jesus contrast the thief and robber with the true Shepherd (vs. 1, 2)? _____

2. To whom does the doorkeeper open the door (vs. 3-5)? _____

List the responses of the sheep to the Shepherd. _____

How do the sheep respond to strangers? _____

3. What was the response of the people to whom Jesus spoke (vs. 6)? _____

4. What did Jesus call Himself (vs. 7, 8)? _____

How did He describe those who came before Him? _____

How did the sheep respond to them? _____

5. What are the benefits of entering through the Door Jesus is speaking of (vs. 9)? _____

6. Describe the differences between the thief and the Shepherd (vs. 10)? _____

PERSONAL

Do you know the voice of the Good Shepherd? How do you hear Him speak to you? How has your life changed because of His words to you?

SECTION 2 – I AM the Good Shepherd

Read John 10:11-21.

1. How did Jesus describe Himself? What did He do for the sheep (vs. 11)? _____

2. List all the characteristics and actions of the hireling (vs. 12, 13). _____

3. How does this differ from the Good Shepherd that Jesus speaks of in verses 14 and 15? _____

Jesus said, _____ *lay down* _____ *for the sheep*.

LOOK DEEPER

Summarize the characteristics in Ezekiel 34 of the irresponsible shepherds and the True Shepherd.

PERSONAL

How do you see this happening in our world today? What warning can you take for yourself?

4. Who was Jesus referring to when He talked of sheep, *not of this fold* (John 10:16, Ephesians 2:11-13)? How have they been brought to Jesus?

PERSONAL

How does this challenge you in your life? Who do you need to bring into the fold through the sacrifice of the Good Shepherd and His resurrection power?

5. What did Jesus say that He has power to do? What does this mean (John 10:17, 18, John 3:16)?

LOOK DEEPER

Read I John 3:16-18 and Matthew 16:25, 26. How are we to follow the example of the Shepherd's sacrifice?

PERSONAL

How can you lay down your own life for someone you are trying to help spiritually? _____

SECTION 3 – A Moment With the Shepherd

Read and meditate on John 10:1-18 with Psalm 23.

1. What similarities do you see? _____

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2. What verses/phrases speak to your heart most strongly? _____
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PERSONAL

- Prayerfully thank Jesus for being your Shepherd.
3. What was the reaction of the crowd that Jesus was speaking to (John 10:19-21)? _____
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SECTION 4 – Feast of Dedication¹

Read John 10:22-39.

1. What time of year was it (vs. 22)? _____
2. Where was Jesus (vs. 23)? _____²
3. What did the Jewish leaders do? What did they ask Jesus (vs. 24)? _____
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4. Why could they not believe in Jesus (vs. 25, 26)? _____
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5. How does Jesus demonstrate His love for His sheep (vs. 27-29)? _____
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¹ Feast of Dedication: Feast of purification of the temple after it had been desecrated by the King of Syria (175-164 B.C.), who had tried to abolish the Jewish religion by sacrificing a swine to the pagan god Zeus. Hanukah; Feast of Lights; occurs the last eight days of December; a candle is lit for each day.

² Solomon's porch: a structure with a roof supported by rows of 40-foot-high pillars. A place where Jesus could pray, meditate, teach and be protected from the cold; AKA the portico of Solomon.

PERSONAL

Jesus desires an intimate personal abiding relationship with His own. How do you describe your relationship with Jesus Christ today?

6. Jesus made a controversial statement of truth, what did He say (vs. 30)? _____

7. What was the reaction (vs. 31)? _____

8. What did Jesus say in His first defense of Himself (vs. 32)? _____

9. What did the Jews accuse Jesus of (vs. 33)? _____

LOOK DEEPER

Jesus answered the Jews by appealing to their own Scriptures. Read Psalm 82:6³ to understand Jesus argument. What do you think Jesus was saying when He asked His accusers the questions in verses 34-36?

10. What was Jesus' second defense (John 10:37, 38)? _____

11. What did the Jews do (vs. 39)? _____

³ godly: Hebrew elohim, mighty ones; the judges.

What did Jesus do? _____

SECTION 5 – Jesus Withdraws

Read John 10:40-42.

1. Where did Jesus go? Why do you think He went there (vs. 40, 41)? _____

PERSONAL

Where do you go and what do you do when the pressures of life overwhelm you? _____

2. What was said about John the Baptist (vs. 41, 42)? _____

How was Jesus blessed? _____

What attributes⁴ does Jesus display that ministered to your heart? _____

*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them,
and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life,
and they shall never perish.*
John 10:27, 28a

⁴ Attribute: Any Property, Quality or Characteristic that can be ascribed to Christ.

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