Jesus, The Good Shepherd

John 10:1-18; Matthew 18:11-14

Faith Portal Church

YOUTH

Unit 1 Lesson 03

Supplemental Texts

Psalm 23; Luke 15:4-7

Focus Verse

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." - John 10:27

Introduction

Have you ever wondered what the role of a Shepherd is? While we may never come across a shepherd in our modern world, we know that he tends and rears sheep. A shepherd will do all things possible to protect his sheep from all dangers around. Sheep know the voice of their shepherd and the follow Him (John 10:4). Jesus is our Shepherd and a good one indeed! He gave is life for His sheep so that the sheep can have abundant life. Reading Matt 18:11-14, we can infer that God is in the business of rescuing lost souls from death. Our God is good and gracious!

Deeper Look

The Shepherd of the Sheep - John 10:1-5,11-18

Jesus, in His parable, stated that only thieves and robbers go to the sheep pen in a way other than the door. The true shepherd goes through the door. He is known of the doorkeeper; his voice is known of his sheep; he calls his sheep by name; and when he leads his sheep, they follow him and only him. Jesus is our true Shepherd and He gave His life for us. It is amazing to know that He calls us by name and cares for His own. Are you following Him today?

The Door for the Sheep - John 10:7-10

In another following discourse, Jesus asserted that He is the Door for the sheep. He said this to mean that He is the Door that leads to salvation, the kingdom of God, spiritual blessings, and eternal life. As He is our Shepherd, He is also our Door! If we are His Sheep, we must hear and obey Him as He leads us in the path of righteousness (Isa 30:21); otherwise, we run the risk of being led astray by the Devil. Whose Sheep are you?

The Lost Sheep - Matthew 18:11-14

Jesus presented this parable to illustrate His love for rescuing sinners. As the lost sheep, we have wandered away from God (Isa 53:6). We choose the way that looks right to us but in reality that way leads to destruction (Prov 14:12; 16:25). Jesus is looking to save the lost souls and bless them with every spiritual blessing in heavenly places (Eph 1:3).

Questions

1.	In our text, Jesus referred to Himself as the good Shepherd. Describe how a good shepherd cares for his sheep.
2.	In your own opinion, do you think all sheep would want a good shepherd? Explain.
3.	Jesus also referred to Himself as the Door for the sheep. What significance does the door bear in our lesson?
4.	What is the purpose of the false shepherd?
5.	What does it mean for a shepherd to give his life for his sheep?
6.	Someone might say, "All ways lead to God." How would you respond to such a one in the light of today's lesson?
7.	Read John 10:16 and explain what Jesus meant in the verse.
8.	And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray — Matt 18:13. Why would the shepherd rejoice more for finding the lost sheep?

Personal Meditation

What a wonderful Savior is Jesus Christ! He came to this world not to do His will but the will of God the Father Who sent Him. His whole purpose was to bring salvation to all mankind. We, as a lost sheep, have wandered far away from God. And, as a lost sheep, we do not know the way back to our Source, God. For this reason, Jesus came that He might find us and leads us back to the Father. God loves us dearly, and it is not His will for any of us to perish (Matt 18:14).

Once we are saved, we are owned by Jesus. We become His sheep and He becomes our Shepherd. We know Him as He knows us (John 10:4,27). More so, Jesus is the *only* Door through which we may enter and be saved (John 10:9). As a door, He provides security and safety for His sheep by warding off predators or intruders from entering into the sheep pen.

Psalm 23 is a beloved chapter in the Bible detailing the love and care of our heavenly Shepherd for us. The picture in this chapter helps us appreciate more of God's love, care and sustenance. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our life. AMEN!

DAILY STUDY

Monday	John 1:1-5
Tuesday	John 1:6-11
Wednesday	John 1:12-18
Thursday	Matthew 18:11-14
Friday	Psalm 23:1-6
Saturday	Luke 15:4-7



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