

The Good Shepherd

John 10:1-21

Key Verse: 14

1. Read verses 1-6. To whom is Jesus speaking? Who acted as a good shepherd to the man born blind in chapter 9? How? How did the Pharisees show themselves to be false shepherds? (See Ezekiel 34:1-4)
2. Read verses 1-2 again. When a man does not enter by the gate but climbs in by some other way, what does this reveal about his motives? What might be some ways the Pharisees had gotten into the sheep pen? What does it mean that Jesus entered by the gate? (8:29,55; 9:33; etc.) Look at Ezekiel 34:15,23-24. How does Jesus fulfill prophecy?
3. Read verses 2-4. What are some evidences that identify the true shepherd? What else reveals the sheep-shepherd relationship? What does it mean that the sheep recognize his voice? What does it mean that he calls them by name?
4. Read verses 4-5. What proves that they are his own sheep? Why is it significant that he leads them and does not drive them? Why do they not follow a stranger? What does this mean practically?
5. Read verses 6-10. When they did not understand him, how did Jesus change the metaphor? What does he say about false gates? What does it mean that Jesus is the gate? Why does the thief come? Why does Jesus the shepherd come? (10)
6. Read verses 11-13. How does Jesus the good shepherd show that he loves the sheep? How is the hired hand different from the shepherd? How is he like the thief and how is he different?
7. Read verses 14-16. In what sense was Jesus God's sheep? Who are the other sheep? What responsibility does Jesus take toward them? What does this teach about his world mission purpose? How is it possible for there to be one flock and one shepherd?
8. Read verses 17-21. What does Jesus say about his approaching death? Why must he die? What did the Jews say about him? Why are we both sheep and shepherds? How can we know that we are Jesus' sheep? (15,17) How can we be shepherds?