

“The Good Shepherd” Group Study

Season 3: Light in the Darkness, **Week 5**

Passage: John 10: 1-21

Pastor Ryan Paulson

ICEBREAKER:

1. “The personal name is the most important part of speech in our language.”
~Eugene Peterson

Share with your group the significance of your first name. Who gave it to you? Do you like it? And/or do you know the nationality of your last name?

As a way to get into the study, go back over the Sermon Outline from Sunday:

The voice you’re **following** determines your **flourishing**.

The Good Shepherd:

1. **protects**
2. **knows**
3. **guides**
4. **rescues**

The **cross and resurrection** prove that Jesus is the **Good Shepherd**.



Learning His Way

(Every week in these studies, we will ask questions about the Scriptures that try to help us Discover the unique Way of Jesus that is found in the text.)

2. Read Isaiah 53:6, Psalm 100:3, Matthew 18:12, Ezekiel 34:11-12 and John 10:3
3. Using the 4 Characteristics of the Good Shepherd from the sermon outline, identify the characteristic of God found within each passage.

4. Are there any other Bible verses that come to mind that show the characteristics of the Good Shepherd? Share them with your group.
5. The Scriptures share a consistency of God's character throughout the Old and New Testament. Why is this important?



Forming His Heart

(This is the part of the study where we work on our own hearts. "How does my character need to grow and change because of this passage?")

6. The Good Shepherd protects, knows, guides, and rescues. Which one of these characteristics is most difficult for you to fully comprehend?
7. In John 10:10, the quality of life that the Good Shepherd wants to lead His sheep towards is a "Zoe" life. "Not just the kind of life that lasts forever, but the kind of life you WANT to last forever." ~Ryan Paulson

Share a recent time when after following the way of Jesus, that it led to a taste of this kind of life.

8. Three ways we can hear God's voice are: Scripture, Prayer, People. Take a moment for honest reflection. Which one of these disciplines might need some attention in your life so that you are putting yourself in the position to hear the voice of the Good Shepherd. Share with the group.



Joining His Mission

(This is the part of the study that we ask, "What would God want us to do because of this passage?")

9. As a group, read these lyrics from 'Amazing Love' by the Newsboys. Another option would be to listen & sing together by clicking [this link](#).

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken
I'm accepted, You were condemned
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again

Amazing love, how can it be

That You, my King, should die for me?

Amazing love, I know it's true

It's my joy to honor You

In all I do, to honor You

In all I do, to honor You

You are my King

You are my King

Jesus, You are my King

You are my King

10. We rely on the Good Shepherd to set the example for us to live in all we do. The apostle Paul wrote this in 1 Corinthians 11:1, "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

How are you challenged to follow the voice of the Good Shepherd this week and participate in the flourishing of your life and the lives of others?

General Church Announcements:

Ryan will be leading a trip to Israel summer of 2024. For more information, visit www.efcc.org/Israel.