

STUDY #27**“I Am the Good Shepherd”****John 10:7-21**

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS

→**Review:** Read verses John 10-1-6

1 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. 2 But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” 6 This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

1. What are the first two words Jesus says in this passage, and what does that mean to His audience?
2. Who is Jesus speaking to?
3. What figure of speech does Jesus use about Himself in verses 2,3,4?

Read verses 1:7-10

“7 So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

1. Instead of saying He is the Good Shepherd, what figure of speech does Jesus use now?

2. What does Jesus call all who came before, and how did the sheep respond?

Read verses 9-10:

1. What is the result of going through the "door"?
2. Contrast the thief and Jesus.

Read verses 11-16

11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 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. 13 He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

1. Circle all the times Jesus refers to himself as the Good Shepherd, and list what the Good Shepherd does for His Sheep.
2. Who are the sheep that are "not of this fold"?

Read verses 17-21

1. Why does the Father love Jesus? What does this passage show about Jesus' authority?
2. What are the two views of Jesus among the Jews?

Teaching Notes

1. **Jesus is the Door**

2. **Jesus is the Good Shepherd**

3. **Jesus has Authority**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

John 10:7-10 So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

1 Peter 3:15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect

Jesus tells us that He is the “door” to salvation. Discuss the different ways today’s world believes you can have eternal life and why people would believe those things.

Discuss, in light of 1 Peter 3:15 - how you would answer those who believe there are many ways to Jesus. Is this easy for you? If not, talk about practical way that you can become more comfortable sharing this important truth with unbelievers.

John 10:10-15 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. 11 I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 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. 13 He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father.”

Jesus once again calls Himself the Good Shepherd and says He came to give us an abundant life.

Discuss how the “abundant life” looks in your life. How is this different than how the world would view the abundant life? Does your life look different?

Jesus also speaks about the intimate relationship the Good Shepherd has with His sheep.

What are the ways Jesus knows us intimately? Do you feel the intimacy with Christ that He is speaking of?

Why or why not? How can the intimacy be deepened in your walk?

If there is time, share prayer requests based on our study today.