

Sunday - August 2, 2020

I Am...The Good Shepherd

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Today's Scripture: John 10:14-16

I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. ¹⁵ As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶ And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

"He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearer is silent, so He opened not His mouth." Isaiah 53:7

"Shepherd the flock of God which is among you." I Peter 5:2:

"I am the good shepherd." John 10:11

THE GOOD SHEPHERD HAS A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS SHEEP

- The Shepherd reaches out with **kindness**
 - *"Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."* Psalm 23:4
- Three life-changing words
 - **God loves you**
- Why does He love you? Because you belong to Him
 - *"Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."* I Peter 5:7
- The Good Shepherd reveals His **Familiarity**
 - *"The sheep hear His voice; He calls His own sheep by name."* John 10:3
- The Lord Jesus knows you. He knows everything about you, and He is familiar with all your ways
 - *"I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made."* Psalm 139:14
 - *"You comprehend my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways."* Psalm 139:3
- Three life-changing words
 - **God loves you**
- Four life-changing words
 - **He knows your name**

- The Good Shepherd displays His **Authority**
 - *“He leads them out.” John 10:3*
- Only the Shepherd has the knowledge, wisdom and skill to lead the way
- The only way you will get to where you need to go is to trust the Lord’s authority over your life
- Three life-changing words
 - **God loves you**
- Four life-changing words
 - **He knows your name**
- Five life-changing words
 - **He will guide your way**

THE GOOD SHEPHERD WORKS TO ACCOMPLISH HIS WILL FOR HIS SHEEP

- **He leads the flock out**
 - The sheepfold does not contain the abundance the shepherd has in mind
 - Until you trust Him, you will never experience the abundance that comes from stepping out and following
- **He shows the way**
 - One of the hardest things to learn is to listen to the Lord’s voice before you act
 - The second challenge is to act when His leading seems too hard
 - All along the way, nothing is more important than to believe that the Lord knows what He is doing.
- **He protects His sheep**
 - Never forget that the Lord is there for you and is willing to fight on your behalf
 - *“I am the Good Shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep.”*
John 10:11
- **He brings His flock all the way home**
 - *“I have the power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again.” John 10:17*
 - In taking His life again, He opened the way to come into His Father’s house