

Week: for **October 28th, 2020**

Scripture: **John 10: 1-30**

Bottom Line: **The Good Shepherd cares for his people**

A personal note from **Jesse**: My prayer for this teaching and the subsequent discussion time is that you and our students can be encouraged knowing that we are a part of The Good Shepherd's flock. We are under his protection and guidance. I would challenge our students to identify some things that distract them from God's goodness. Do you they ever listen to the stranger's voice, or feel like they are under the care of a hired hand? End tonight on the truth that if we are true followers of Jesus, we are in the Father's hands, and with that, no one can snatch us out of this reach.

- Use the following questions to help move group discussion along, draw them out, and get them talking.
- As always, feel free to adapt or change or edit these as you see fit. If you want to get some more ideas look at "The Art of Group Talk" for guys or girls in the leader lounge, or other resources you find there.
- If you do get any feedback, questions, comments, or connections on the teaching tonight – please let one of our staff know so we can follow up in the live Q&A on Friday afternoon!
- **MAKE SURE** you find out how to be praying for them right now and take time to pray together before you exit.

Questions for discussion:

In this Passage

1. How are the characters of destruction different? How are they different? In your opinion, is there one worse than the other? (*HINT: Thief and Robber, Stranger, Hired Hand*)
2. As you read through John 10: 1-30, what are some of the characteristics that you see in the Good Shepherd? (*HINT: Protector, Guide/Leader, Sacrificial, Patient, Life-Giver, Personal/Relational, Seeker*)

For Reflection

1. Why do you think the people did not understand what Jesus was trying to tell them? (*Confusion among the Jews can be found in verse 6 and verses 19-21*) Follow-up question: Why do you think Jesus did not plainly tell the Jews that he was God? (*verse 24, "How long will you keep us in suspense?"*)
2. Why do you think sheep are the most mentioned animal in the bible? Why is this important? What does this say about us?
3. Where in your life could you identify some things that try to distract you from God's goodness? Do you ever feel prone to wander?

Looking at the passage as a whole

1. What is Jesus heard saying? What do you hear in his words?
2. What do you see the people doing? What do you see or hear in their reactions?

More options:

Play Psalm 23 (Surely Goodness, Surely Mercy) by: Shane & Shane and discuss how the lyrics mirror Psalm 23.

- Try to point out the attributes of Jesus (The Good Shepherd) as you listen
- Can you relate to the verses in Psalm 23?
 - How can they give you comfort and peace in the midst of hard times?