

Are you wondering what it means to be a Christian?

Jesus said, "All that the Father gives me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will never drive away" (John 6:37). Jesus also said, "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day" (John 6:44).

If you are feeling drawn to Christ, it is because God the Father is drawing you; it is not a desire we can or will create within ourselves. This also means that there is no sin too great to be forgiven, and no past too sinful to be overcome. You can trust Christ to receive you because it is God the Father who is drawing you to find true repentance and receive the gift of faith. You can know a new life in Jesus Christ.

We would love to talk and pray with you about this or any other spiritual needs you may have. Please see Pastor Mark or one of our elders after today's service to do so.

Are you interested in Baptism or Church Membership?

Please indicate your interest on the back of your Connection Card and Pastor Mark or one of the elders will be in touch with you this week to set up a time to meet with you.

THE TRUE SHEPHERD AND HIS SHEEP John 10:1-21

Main Thought: In John 10:1-21, we discover Jesus' credentials and qualities as the true and good shepherd whom we should follow.

1. JESUS' _____ AS THE TRUE SHEPHERD (vv 1-6)

- 1) He enters by the _____.
- 2) The _____ opens the gate for him.
- 3) The _____ listen to his voice.
- 4) He _____ them out and goes ahead of them.
- 5) The sheep know his _____.

2. _____ IS THE GATE FOR THE SHEEP (vv 7-10)

- 1) The gate to _____.
- 2) The gate to _____ I truth.
- 3) The gate to _____ life.

3. JESUS' _____ AS THE GOOD SHEPHERD (vv 11-21)

- 1) He _____ the sheep and lays down his life for them.
- 2) He _____ his life with the sheep.
- 3) He has other _____ that He must bring into His flock.
- 4) He has the _____ to lay down his life and take it up again.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH GROUPS

1. Read John 10:1-21 and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to you as you read.

2. What do you learn about God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) from this passage?

3. What do you learn about human beings/yourself from this passage?

4. What verse meant the most to you? Why?

5. What didn't you understand in the passage? What answers did you find for your questions?

6. What application(s) for your life do you take away from this passage?

Digging deeper:

7. What do the sheep, shepherd, and stranger represent? The gate? How does the story in chapter 9 provide one example of what this parable is about?

8. What is the relationship of the shepherd to his sheep?

9. What does Jesus mean by likening himself to the gate for the sheep pen? How is he unlike the thieves and robbers? In this context, who are the thieves and robbers?

10. How does Jesus identify himself with the good shepherd?

11. How does Jesus' death relate to his promise in verse 10?

12. Who are the other sheep that Jesus must bring also? What characterizes his flock?

13. What final claim does Jesus make (vv 17-18)?

14. Why do his listeners respond as they do?