



EXPLORE THE BIBLE[®]

The Gospel of John Sermon Series
Supports Session 12: I Know My Own
Sermon Title: "The Good Shepherd" (John 10:1-21)

Connection to Session 12

Session 12 examines Jesus's teaching on being the good shepherd who cares for His sheep. John 10:1-21 focuses on the work that Jesus does to bring His sheep under His loving care, even those who are not currently there.

Introduction/Opening

History is full of people following awful leaders. When reading about people who have followed these leaders it is hard to not ask, "Why did so many follow these corrupt leaders?" For many of them, they were deceived into thinking they had found someone who was great, whom they could trust, and a belief that they could be a part of something great. How will Christians be able to avoid ending up like so many whose legacies only ended in scandal? God's people will not be led astray if we remain faithful to our Shepherd. God's people will not be led astray because they know His voice and hear His call.

Outline

1. The Sheepfold (10:1-6)

a) Thieves and robbers.

1. In the context of John 10, Jesus is having a heated discussion with the Pharisees. He compared them to thieves and robbers who do not care for God's people. The Pharisees used their leadership positions, not to serve God's people, but to advance themselves.
 - i. In Ezekiel 34, the Lord rebuked the shepherds of Israel (their leaders) for not caring for the flock of God. Jesus applied this text to the leaders of His day.
 - ii. Watch out for thieves and robbers. These are people who do not care for the people of God but use positions of power to advance themselves.

b) The True Shepherd.

1. Jesus is the True Shepherd Who knows His sheep.

2. The Gate (10:7-10)

- a) Jesus explained how He is the gate of the sheep (vs. 7). He is the only way in which anyone can be a part of the flock of God. He is referring to salvation being found in Him alone. Have you entered salvation through this gate?

3. The Good Shepherd (10:11-15)

a) Twice Jesus referred to Himself as the Good Shepherd (vv. 11,14). Contrasted with the bad and evil shepherds of Israel's history, Christ is the Good Shepherd.

b) How do we know Jesus is the Good Shepherd? Four times over verses 11-18, Jesus said He will lay down His life.

4. Other Sheep (10:16)

a) Jesus mentions having other sheep "that are not from this sheep pen" (v. 16). He is referring to the Gentiles. Jesus was saying that through Him laying down His life and taking it up again, all who believe in Him will be united.

b) When the call of the gospel goes out, Jesus's sheep, Jew and Gentile, will respond to the gospel call and follow the Good Shepherd.

c) How is God using us to reach "sheep" from all over the world?

Conclusion

Everyone is following something or someone. Who are you following? Leaders of Israel failed the flock of God. However, God sent the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for His sheep, so that they might have eternal life.

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