



Unit 23, Session 5

The Good Shepherd

John 10

Story Point: Jesus is the Good Shepherd who cares for His people.

Jesus told a story to the Jewish leaders: “If a person climbs into a sheep pen, he is not the shepherd; he is a thief. A shepherd enters the pen through the gate. When the sheep hear the shepherd’s voice, they recognize him and follow him. A shepherd calls his sheep by name, and he leads them.”

The people did not understand Jesus’ story. Jesus was talking about God’s people as sheep. Jesus is the Shepherd.

Jesus said, “I am the gate for the sheep. They come in through Me and are saved.” Jesus warned, “A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy.” Jesus said, “I have come so that they may have life.”

“I am the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep,” Jesus said. “I know My sheep, and My sheep know Me.”

The Jews argued with one another. Many said, “Don’t listen to Him; He has a demon. He’s crazy.” Others said, “That’s not true. How can a demon give sight to the blind?”

The Jewish leaders asked Jesus, “Are you really the Messiah? Just tell us.”

Jesus answered, “I did tell you but you do not believe because you are not My sheep. My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of My hand.”

Christ Connection: Jesus is the Good Shepherd. God sent Him to rescue sinners. Jesus laid down His life for His sheep so they could have forgiveness and eternal life. When we trust in Jesus, we are His sheep who listen to, follow, and obey Him.



EXPERIENCE the Story

The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. All of the stories in the Bible fit together to tell us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

- Circle whether each statement describes the shepherd or the sheep.

shepherd	sheep	Enters the pen by the gate (John 10:2)
shepherd	sheep	Calls his own by name (John 10:3)
shepherd	sheep	Follows the voice they know (John 10:4)
shepherd	sheep	Runs from a stranger (John 10:5)
shepherd	sheep	Lays down his life (John 10:10)
shepherd	sheep	Comes so they may have life (John 10:11)
shepherd	sheep	Part of the flock (John 10:16)

- What does this story teach us about God?

- How does Jesus protect His sheep?

CHRIST CONNECTION

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. God sent Him to rescue sinners. Jesus laid down His life for His sheep so they could have forgiveness and eternal life. When we trust in Jesus, we are His sheep who listen to, follow, and obey Him.



APPLY the Story

- How do you feel knowing that Jesus knows each of His sheep personally—by name?
- What can you do when you feel lost and God feels far away?
- How can the way you live point others to Jesus as the Good Shepherd?

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APPLY the Story

- Find John 14:25-26 in your Bible and write the words below.

- Write a prayer to God, thanking Him for His care for His sheep. Pray that you would joyfully listen to, follow, and obey Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

READ THE WORD

Read one of the following passages each day this week:

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|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 12:7 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 2:25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 77:1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 9:36 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Timothy 4:12 | <input type="checkbox"/> Isaiah 40:11 |