

KNOWING REAL LOVE

Jesus the Good Shepherd

John 10:1–42

I am the gate for the sheep...I am the good shepherd. John 10:7, 11

1. Read John 10:1–10. How is the “thief and the robber” (vss. 1, 8) different from the “shepherd of the sheep” (vs. 2)?
2. Describe how the sheep respond to their shepherd. (vss. 3–4)
3. What does Jesus call himself in verse 7? What does that mean to the sheep? (vss. 9–10). What does that mean to you?
4. Read John 10:11–21. Who does Jesus say that he is in verse 11? What would Jesus’ words bring to mind to those who were listening? (Psalm 23:1; Isaiah 40:11; Ezekiel 34:11–16)
5. What does the good shepherd do for the sheep? (vss. 11, 14–16) Describe a specific way that Jesus has been your shepherd.
6. Look again at verses 11–18. Describe the difference between how the hired hand cares for the sheep and how the Good Shepherd cares for the sheep.
7. Describe the relationship between the Father and Jesus—the Good Shepherd (vss. 15, 17–18).

8. Read John 10:22–42. What promises does Jesus give the sheep in verses 25–30?

9. How does Jesus guarantee the safety of the sheep? (vss. 29–30) How does knowing this help you today?

10. What are the different responses Jesus' listeners have to his words? (vss. 19–21, 31, 41–42) How can you tell which listeners are his sheep? What response do you have to Jesus' words?

11. Read Psalm 23 and list all the different ways the Lord shepherds his people. Think of one person in your life who needs to be shepherded in this way. Take a moment and pray for them.