PULPIT CURRICULUM

Enjoying Jesus: Our Good Shepherd

John 10:11-18

July 14, 2024 - Chris Peterson

Prayer & Praise: Pray for Global Outreach teams preparing to leave. GO Team Uganda is first up, gone from July 18-27, please pray for a fruitful partnership with SOS Ministries the next two weeks!



<u>Intro</u>: As you think about the image and idea of Jesus Christ being our shepherd and we his sheep, how does that square with the old American ideal of "rugged individualism" (i.e. – self-reliance, independence, etc.)?

The Sacrificial Love of the Shepherd (vv. 11-15) Cf: Ezekiel 34:1-10

Why do you think Jesus chose to use shepherd and sheep as imagery for His relationship to the church?

When you contrast the 'bad' shepherds spoken of in Ezekiel with the person and work of Jesus in the gospels, what were some of the main differences between the two? How could that have been missed by the leaders in His day?

How is Christ's sacrificial love a model and motivation for your ministry of care to others?

The Submissive Love of the Shepherd (vv. 16-17)

How does Christ's perfect submission to the Father's will help deepen your understanding of the relationship between love and obedience that Jesus teaches elsewhere in the gospel of John? (Cf: Jn 14:10-15, 15:10)

The Sovereign Love of the Shepherd (v. 18) Cf: Jn 19:11, Ph 2:6-8

When you consider all the sinful decisions that men made that led Christ to be rejected and "nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put to death" (Acts 2:23), how do you reconcile that with Jesus' words here that make clear He was always in control?

How does His sovereign love give you greater confidence that you are guided, provided, and protected by Him?

Mutual Ministry: Thinking about the sacrificial love of the Good Shepherd is a timely opportunity to consider our own love for those around us. How are you doing this summer at showing that love towards people in your life?

Christ's sacrifice was actively performed. It was ever in the doing as long as he lived; but he did it actively. He did not die for the sheep merely, but he laid down his life, which is another thing.

CH Spurgeon