



I am...
the Good Shepherd

EPER

As we journey through the "I am" series over the next few weeks and we discover more about Jesus, He extends an invitation to us to go deeper with Him. This pamphlet is designed to help you think more deeply and reflect, in different ways, on the sermon topics. It is filled with suggestions of things to read, watch and listen to and we hope it encourages you to go deeper during the week and connect with God in meaningful ways. Our prayer is that, as we behold Jesus over the coming weeks, our eyes would be opened and our hearts would be changed. May His love and wonder delight and encourage you.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." - John 10:11

"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me - just as the Father knows me and I know the Father - and I lay down my life for the sheep." - John 10:14-15



Suggestion 1: Spend some time reading John 10 and these other Scriptures that references sheep and shepherds

- I Kings 22:17
 - Psalm 23
 - Psalm 81
 - Isaiah 40:11
 - Jeremiah 31:10
 - Ezekiel 34
 - Matthew 9:36
 - Matthew 25
 - Hebrews 13:20
 - 1 Peter 2:25
 - 1 Peter 5:4
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- What stands out for you most from these passages?
 - Why do you think God identifies Himself as a Shepherd?
 - Why do you think the people of God are compared to sheep? What characteristics of sheep do we tend to display?
 - Read Revelation 1:17 - how is the image of Jesus the lamb and Jesus the Shepherd combined in this passage?



Suggestion 2: Watch / listen to / read some further resources about Jesus, the Good Shepherd

- Francis Chan on the Good Shepherd:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lMkcvCsBQRI&t=45s>
- T.D Jakes on the Good Shepherd: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0h3ErX28QY>
- R.C. Sproul on the Good Shepherd:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=adOB3fbTmms>
- A study on John 10: <https://bible.org/seriespage/23-good-shepherd-john-101-18>

“That is how good a shepherd he is. He goes all the way to the cross, and at the cross the shepherd becomes the lamb, sacrificed to take away the sin of the world.” - Ian Campbell



Suggestion 3: Reflectively pray through Psalm 23

Pray each verse of the Psalm and then reflect on its meaning. Spend a few minutes praying through each section and allow God to speak to you as you do.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
3 he refreshes my soul.
He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord
for ever.



Suggestion 4: Reflect on the attributes of the Good Shepherd

1. The Good Shepherd provides for our needs and feeds us.
 - How spiritually full do you feel right now? How do you think you can find deeper spiritual nourishment in God?
 - What needs do you currently have that you can bring to God and ask Him to meet?
2. The Good Shepherd guides us
 - What guidance are you currently seeking? How can you seek God for clarity or direction?
3. The Good Shepherd correct us
 - Have you experienced God's correction recently? Pray and ask God if there is any aspect of your life that needs correction and ask Him to purify your heart. (Psalm 51 is helpful to pray through in this regard).
4. The Good Shepherd protects us
 - In what way do you need God's protection and care right now? Bring Him your worries and concerns in this regard.
5. The Good Shepherd knows us
 - The sheep know the Shepherd's voice because of their close connection with Him. How well do you know God's voice? Ask Him to draw you closer and develop the intimacy of your relationship with Him.

