

WORKOUT: PART ONE

JOHN 10:1-21

Believe
and
LIVE
THE GOSPEL OF JOHN



Read all of John chapter 10, focusing on verses 1-21.

Ponder Jesus' revelation, "I am the good shepherd" (10:11).

- What does it mean for Jesus to be the good shepherd?
 - How do other passages inform our understanding of this metaphor? Begin with Psalm 23:1-4, Isaiah 40:11, Jeremiah 23:1-4, and Ezekiel 34:1-16.
- From John 10, contrast the good shepherd with the thief and robber, and with the hired hand. What are the differences between each of these?

How does Jesus as the good shepherd inform how we understand what it means to care for and love one another? Read and study John 10:17 alongside Philippians 2:1-11.

- Where are you tempted to act out of selfish ambition or conceit (Phil 2:3)? How often in a day do you make a decision for someone else's interest instead of your own (Phil 2:4)?
- The hired hand "flees because... he cares nothing for the sheep" (10:13). What keeps you from caring for others? What do you seek to protect? Where do you care more about other people's perception of you or your own reputation than you care about sacrificially loving and serving others?



Pray Holistically

Read John 10:14-18 and pray in worship of Jesus, the good shepherd.

- Lord, you are the good shepherd. You lead us, guide us, care for us, and protect us. You know your sheep, and we know you because you have called us to be yours.
- Father, thank you for Jesus who lays down His life for the sheep. Thank you that He brings together all of His sheep into one flock under His care and leadership.
- Jesus, we praise you for your authority. Your authority is ultimate, and nothing can overcome or subdue it. You lay down your own life, and even death cannot stop your power. You have authority over death, even in death, to reclaim your life. It is because you live that we may have life in you.

Pray Personally

Read John 10:4-5. Pray in thanksgiving that the Lord has given you ears to hear His voice. Pray, asking the Lord to guard His people from the temptations of false teachers (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

- Father, thank you that we know your voice, and that you have given us discernment to be able to distinguish your voice from a stranger's voice. Grow this discernment in us (Hebrews 5:14). Guard us from the temptation to find teachers who suit our own passions (2 Timothy 4:3). Keep us from being led astray (Matthew 24:4-5; 2 Peter 2:15). Strengthen our resolve to pursue truth that we would not be carried away with the error of lawless people and lose our own stability. Grow us in your grace and the knowledge of you. To you be the glory forever and ever (2 Peter 3:17-18).



Jesus is the good shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep.

Because Jesus cares for the sheep (10:13) and lays His life down for them (10:17), the sheep know and trust His voice (10:14). Because they trust His voice, the sheep hear Him and follow (10:4).

Consider the implications of this passage for how we respond to Jesus' commands.

- Pay attention as you go throughout your day. Where do you most struggle to follow what God has told us in His Word?
- Daily, as you read and study the Bible, pause to marvel that God has spoken to us.
- Daily pray, asking God to deepen your trust in Him.
- Daily resolve, like Mary told the servants in John 2:5, to do what He says. His words are spirit and life (6:63), and His sheep trust His voice because He lays down His life for them (10:17).