

“THE GOOD SHEPHERD”

John 10:11-18

Near the end of His ministry, Jesus healed a man who had been born blind. That miracle caused quite a stir. Jewish religious leaders confronted Jesus in an effort to discredit Him. Others believed in Jesus. He leveraged that opportunity to teach them who He was and what His purpose was. The Bible refers to Jesus by many different names. These include . . .

- **Great High Priest (Heb. 4:14)**
- **Head of the church (Col. 1:18)**
- **Holy One of God (John 6:69)**
- **Immanuel (Isa. 7:14)**
- **King of kings/Lord of lords (1 Tim. 6:15)**
- **Lamb of God (John 1:29)**
- **Bread of life (John 6:35)**
- **Light of the World (John 8:12)**
- **Messiah (John 4:25–26)**

Listen to the words of the Lord Jesus...

John 10:11–16...“I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. **12** “He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters *them*. **13** “*He flees* because he is a hired hand and is not concerned about the sheep. **14** “I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, **15** even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. **16** “I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock *with* one shepherd. **17** “For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. **18** “No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father.”

Of all the names given to our Lord, the one that strikes a chord in the heart of many people is this one—“**The Good Shepherd.**” How can we read this name without thinking of Psalm 23? He wanted the people to know that, as the incarnate God, He had

come to love them, to save them, and to unify all believers.

When Jesus said—“I lay down my life”—He was referring to His own voluntary, sacrificial death on the cross. **Pay close attention to the fact that He referred to this 5 times.** Now let's jump ahead in the gospel . . .

John 19:30...Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

Jesus assumed your guilt and paid the penalty for your sins by sacrificing Himself and He did it because He loves you and wants you to live in unity with other believers.

Don't miss this now. Jesus said that He had the authority to lay down His life for us; He also said that He had the authority to take it up again. Jesus boldly stated that He would be resurrected from the dead. This constitutes what the Bible labels as “*the gospel*.” Here's the truth I want you to latch onto today . . .

JESUS WANTS TO BE YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD!

As the Good Shepherd . . .

1. JESUS CAN FORGIVE YOUR SINS.

Every single person within the sound of my voice has sinned against the holy Creator God. Guilt stalks us like a ravenous wolf. What can we do?

Jesus is the *Good Shepherd* and He loves you so much that He laid down His life for you on the cross. Here's how the Bible explains His sacrificial death:

1 Peter 2:24... and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

Romans 5:8... But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

The resurrection of Jesus proves that God the Father accepted His sacrifice for your sin. If you receive Him as your Savior and Lord by faith, you can walk out of

this church this morning with an assurance that God has forgiven you.

JESUS WANTS TO BE YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD!

He can forgive your sins. Secondly . . .

2. JESUS CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE.

Do you feel as if your life is out of control? Your relationship with your spouse is fading fast. Your child is living in rebellion. You have an addiction that has enslaved you. Anger boils within you and threatens to explode at the slightest provocation. You are desperate for a breakthrough in your life. Deep in your heart you know that you don't have what it takes to change.

I've got some great news for you. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, has the power to change your life! John Stott said this...

I'm afraid we are always in danger of minimizing what God by His resurrection power is able to do in ordinary human beings like you and me....Becoming a Christian is nothing less than a

resurrection from spiritual death and the beginning of an entirely new life in the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Positive thinking and turning over a new leaf are not going to cut it. Turn to the Good Shepherd and trust Him to do what you can't do. Nothing is impossible with Him!

JESUS WANTS TO BE YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD!

He can forgive your sins and *He can change your life*. Now I want you to see that...

3. JESUS CAN GIVE YOU HOPE.

Do you find yourself worrying about the future? This amazing Good Shepherd promised that He would come back to this broken, sin-sick world in person, in power, and in magnificent glory. He will create new heavens and a new earth, and He will rule and reign over this perfect new world. Those who have believed in Him will become a part of His eternal kingdom and those who have refused to repent and believe in Him will be sent to hell. *If you believe in*

Him, you will live with Jesus forever and you will experience fullness of joy and endless pleasure.

1 Peter 1:3–5...Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, **4** to *obtain* an inheritance *which is* imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, **5** who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Jesus will keep His Word. You can count on it. Remember He's the Good Shepherd. He would never lead His sheep!

CONCLUSION

JESUS WANTS TO BE YOUR GOOD SHEPHERD!

Listen, the fact that Jesus chose to lay down His life for you and to take it up again has amazing relevance for your life. I want you to know...

- 1. HE CAN FORGIVE YOUR SINS.**
- 2. HE CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE.**
- 3. HE CAN GIVE YOUR HOPE.**

There is a condition, however. You must turn from your sin and trust Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord. I want to invite you to commit your life to Him this morning.

Is He already your Good Shepherd? Since He laid down His life for you, will you live for Him and seek to honor Him day by day?

THE LORD'S SUPPER

“Our merciful and gracious Lord, we praise You that You are the Good Shepherd. Thank you for loving us so much that You willingly laid down your life to save us. Thank you for giving us the privilege of observing the Lord's Supper so we can remember your death on the cross. Revitalize our hearts with a fresh passion for You and with a profound reverence for You. O Lord, make Your presence real to everyone in this church this morning, and bind us together in love and unity.”

"THIS BLOOD"

At this time Bailey, the choir, and the orchestra will lead us to the Lord's throne in worship . . .

THE BREAD

Now, let's focus on the Lord's Supper itself . . .

1 Corinthians 11:23–24... For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

The bread is a symbol of our Lord's body—*THE ONE HE LAID DOWN FOR YOU*. Think about His love for you and His willingness to suffer on your behalf. Think about Jesus, the eternal Son of God, being slapped, spit upon, beaten, mocked, crowned with thorns, and crucified. With a heart of gratitude and praise, receive the bread.

THE JUICE

1 Corinthians 11:25–26... In the same way *He took the cup also after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”* **26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

This grape juice represents the blood of Jesus that paid the penalty for your sin. Oh, how precious His blood is to us...

Romans 5:8–9... But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. **9** Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

With a heart of gratitude and praise, drink the juice.

Honoring Jesus, our Great Shepherd, is our highest calling as believers and observing the Lord's Supper is the way He has ordained so that we can remember that He loves us, He saves us, and He unifies us.

July 19, 2026

CFBC... Lord's Supper Service

Let's close out this special worship moment by singing the Doxology...

“THE DOXOLOGY”