

# THAT YOU MAY KNOW

*The Good Shepherd*  
John 10:11-18  
August 28, 2022

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

## I. SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT

- Jesus' fourth "I am" statement is one of his most beloved. He is the shepherd—the good one (Vss. 11, 14).
- Jesus is the good shepherd as God is the good shepherd. The mixing of metaphors here is a statement of divinity (Isa. 40:9-12; Ezek. 34:15).
- Hired hands care nothing for the sheep. When trouble arises, they flee and leave the sheep to be scattered (Vss. 12-14; Ezek. 34:1-24; Matt. 18:12-14; 2 Peter 2:1-3).
- Our true shepherd never leaves us. On the contrary, he lays down his life for us (John 6:51; Rom. 5:6-11, 8:32; 2 Cor. 5:14-15; 1 Thess. 5:9-10; Titus 2:11-14).
- Jesus lays down his life for the sheep because he knows them like he knows his Father, and the sheep know him like the Father knows Jesus (Vss. 14-15; Amos 3:2).

## II. ONE FLOCK, ONE SHEPHERD

- The "other sheep" that Jesus references here are simply the Gentiles. Jesus will gather them into his flock in fulfillment of prophecy (Isa. 42:6, 49:6; Acts 15:11-21; Rom. 1:16).

## III. LAYING DOWN AND TAKING UP

- Two attitudes provide the best picture of the relationship between the Father and the Son: love and obedience (John 15:9; 1 John 2:3-5).
- The Father loves the Son based on this obedience. Jesus willingly went to the cross to die a substitutionary death on behalf of his sheep (Vs. 18; John 5:21, 19:11; Phil. 2:5-11).
- As a warrant from his Father, Jesus has authority to lay down his life, and to raise it back up again (Vs. 18; John 5:21; Rom. 1:4; 1

**KNOW:** Jesus is the good shepherd who will not abandon his sheep. He knows them, and they know him. They constitute one flock for whom he willingly laid down his life.

**DO:** Live securely in Jesus. Practice sacrifice like Jesus.

### Suggested Reading:

*A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23* by W. Phillip Keller (LifePoint Library #226.507 KEL).

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### Please Read John 10:11-18

1. What is Jesus driving home to the crowd in this passage?
2. What comforts do you take from Jesus' words here? Why?
3. With so many warnings provided in Scripture, why do we tolerate so much false teaching and "wolves" in churches today?
4. Why does Jesus lay down his life for the sheep?
5. Why does the Father love Jesus? What can we learn from this?
6. Was Jesus' life taken from him? Why is it important to know this reality?
7. What application do you derive from this passage/sermon?