

Knowing Jesus as the Son of God
John 10 Discussion Questions
3/5/17

1. John 10 is a contrast between Jesus the Good Shepherd and the religious leadership who are blind guides. What are some of the key characteristics of good leaders/bosses you have had to follow? We discover several reasons why Jesus is the good shepherd.
2. First, we see his authority.
 - a. **Read vv.1-3.** What are some of the reasons why the religious leadership doesn't see Jesus as having the rightful authority as Shepherd? What are some reasons why Jesus is legitimately the shepherd of God's sheep?
 - b. **Read vv.17-18.** We see Jesus' authority as he claims the ability to lay down his life to take it up again. We know this happens on Easter. It seems this would prove to everyone that he is Who he claims to be. Why are there still skeptics today just as there were when he rose from the grave?
 - c. Have you ever wrestled with trusting in Jesus' rightful authority as your shepherd? Explain.
3. The second reason Jesus is the good shepherd is because of his heart and compassion for his sheep.
 - a. **Read vv.3-4.** What does this passage teach us about Jesus' relationship with His people? Can you think of some other examples from the life of Christ where we see his compassion and care for people?
 - b. We have a picture of Jesus caring for us and wanting what is best for us (vv.9-10). We learn we should follow him simply because we want to. There are other places where we learn we should follow him simply because He is the Lord and King. Do you tend to emphasize one of these truths? Do you think Christians tend to emphasize one of these truths at the expense of the other?
 - c. **Read v.16.** This passage suggests there are other people who are Christ's sheep but they haven't been brought in and it is our responsibility to share with them so that they become a part of his fold. Do you think about evangelism and missions in this way? Why might it be helpful and encouraging to think about evangelism and missions in this way?
4. The third reason Jesus is a good shepherd is because of his sacrifice.

- a. **Read v.11.** Some people want to de-emphasize the parts of the message that include our sin and Jesus' sacrifice for our sin. Why is it important that we continue to emphasize the substitutionary atonement of Christ on the cross?
 - b. I gave a caution about the movie/book called *The Shack* because it is lacking in emphasizing the gospel and the cross and it presents confusion about the Trinity and how to be saved. Have you had any experience with *The Shack*?
5. Finally, Jesus is the good shepherd because He provides security.
- a. **Read vv.28-29.** Why should this passage encourage us and give us a sense of security?
 - b. How would you respond to someone who says, "since I am secure I can go do whatever I want and believe however I want?" How would you respond to someone who says, "I think a person can lose his/her salvation?"
 - c. Have you ever wrestled with experiencing security in your salvation? Do you wrestle with this issue now? What do you do to combat this insecurity? How would you counsel someone who is wrestling with this issue of eternal security?