

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

JOHN 10:22-39

DISCUSSION 1: A SHEPHERD AND SHEEP

1. When you think of the metaphors of “shepherd” and “sheep,” what comes to mind?
2. Read Psalm 23:1-3; 77:20; 95:6-9; Isaiah 40:11; Ezekiel 34:11-16; Matthew 18:12-14. What are some things these verses tell us about a shepherd that might help us understand God?
3. Where have you experienced God being a Shepherd to you?
4. What are the differences between a good and bad shepherd? How does Jesus identify himself as the good shepherd and the religious leaders as bad shepherds?

DISCUSSION 2: KEPT BY THE FATHER

1. Read John 10:27-29; 6:37, 39, 44; 11:25-26; Ephesians 1:13-14; 1 Peter 1:5; Philippians 1:6; and Romans 8:28-29. How are Christians preserved and kept by God? What role do we play and why do true Christians persevere in faith?
2. Discuss the nature of our union with Christ and things we receive at conversion like regeneration (a new heart), justification (a new standing), and adoption (a new family). Why are these all irreversible and fully or completely given at conversion?
3. Why is there comfort, encouragement, and hope in knowing if we have truly believed in Jesus, no one can snatch us out of the Father’s hand? How might this free us to live by faith and follow God?
4. Not all who claim to believe in Jesus fully trust in him and believe. What are examples of this we’ve seen in John’s Gospel? Why should this encourage us to continue to live by faith and lean into Christ?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. What does a shepherd do for his sheep?
2. What are ways Jesus relates to us or things he does for us as our Shepherd?
3. As his sheep, how can we better follow, listen to, and obey Jesus the Great Shepherd?

FOR FURTHER STUDY

- **I Am Statements:** John 6:35-59; 8:12-30; 10:1-18; 11:17-27; 14:6; 15:1-6.
- **The Shepherd:** Psalm 23; 28:9; 77:20; 80:1; 95:7; 100:3; Isaiah 40:10-11; Jeremiah 23; Ezekiel 34; Micah 7:14; Matthew 18:12-14.
- **The Sheep:** Psalm 95:7; 119:176; Isaiah 53:6; Hosea 4:16; Luke 15:3-7.
- Read a summary about “Perseverance of the Saints” at <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/perseverance-saints-kelly/>