

## **The Good Shepherd**

John 10:11-18

Bottom Line: Jesus, the Good Shepherd, guards our life by laying down his own.

### **Introduction:**

Have you ever wondered, "How did I get here?"

We often think we're entirely independent beings when, in fact, we are very dependent beings. You and I were created as dependent people.

Our dependency is why we are regularly compared to sheep throughout scripture.

### **Review:**

The blind man is sent away by the Pharisees and welcomed by Jesus (rf. John 9).

Jesus shares a confusing speech about shepherds, sheep, thieves and robbers.

Jesus says, "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and go in and out and find pasture" (John 10:9).

## Truth:

Jesus follows up with a second statement related to the original story, where both his purpose *and* his heart are revealed. **<u>Read John 10:11-18</u>**.



# **Application & Conclusion:**

After his message about love and care for the sheep, some of his listeners were concerned. They assumed he must have a demon. He must be a crazy person. He can't be trusted. Others said, "These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

These other listeners were on to something. Listen to the words he speaks. Look at the works he does. This isn't violence. This is mercy and compassion. This is selflessness and kindness. This is help for those who are helpless. A demon wouldn't do that. Might the Son of God?

Yes. Yes, he would – and it's a good thing he did. If it was not for the Good Shepherd who laid down his life, then you and I would be a bunch of lost, weak, needy sheep. If he is not <u>your</u> Shepherd, then you very well may still be one of those lost, weak, needy sheep.

So then, the question is simple: Is Jesus Christ the Shepherd of your life?

## **Reflection Questions:**

## 1. What does this teach me about God?

### 2. What does this teach me about me?

3. How do I apply this to my life?