

## The GOOD Shepherd

John 10:11-15

Introduction / Context:

### 1. The Claim - I Am the Good Shepherd (John 10:11)

A) Another “I AM” statement

> Jesus is God

B) I Am the GOOD shepherd

> Literally, “I am the shepherd, the good one.”

> Word study – good means beautiful; excellent in nature and characteristics (John 10:9-10)

C) The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep (John 10:11b)

> David was a good shepherd who took on a bear and lion to spare the life of his sheep

Jesus, the good shepherd, will protect His sheep from the wolves (John 10:12)

> Although bears, lions, and wolves are dangerous to the well being of the sheep, there is a greater enemy

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, will take on our greatest enemy (1 Corinthians 15:55-57)

> Jesus, the good shepherd, will “lay down His life for the sheep” (John 10:11b)

Jesus will flesh the significance of this statement John 10:17-18

The Son of God, came to earth to willingly lay His life down for His sheep (2 Cor 5:21)

### 2. The Contrast

A) But a hireling

> The hireling is not the shepherd (John 10:12b)

> The hireling does not own the sheep (John 10:12c)

> The hireling cares for the sheep to earn a living for himself, not to give life to the sheep

B) The heart and commitment of a hireling is revealed by the presence of danger – a wolf

- > He leaves the sheep and flees (John 10:12d)
- > He is more concerned about his well being than the life of the sheep (John 10:12d)
- > He abandons the sheep, leaving them to fend for themselves (John 10:13)

### 3. The Sweet Communion between a Good Shepherd and His Sheep

A) The Shepherd knows His sheep

> Know - to learn to know, come to know, get a knowledge of; to understand; Jewish idiom for the intimate relationship between a man and a woman.

> Jesus “knows” intimately every detail about His sheep

The Good Shepherd knows your fears (Psalm 34:1-4)

He knows your thoughts (Psalm 139:1-12)

He knows your needs (Matthew 6:5-8)

He knows your burdens (Matthew 6:25-34)

He cares for you more than you could ever imagine (1 Peter 5:7)

B) The Sheep know their Shepherd

> They know His voice and follow Him (John 10:3-4)

Sheep recognize the Shepherd’s voice and are inclined toward following it (Heb 12:5-6)

> They trust Him (Proverbs 3:5-6)

> The sheep who knows the Shepherd invites and delights in the Shepherd’s inspection and care (Psalm 139:23-24)

C) The intimacy of this relationship is pictured in Jesus’ relationship with His Father (John 10:15)

> What an unbelievable level or degree of intimacy revealed in this relationship

Love (John 14:31; 15:9)

Trust – (Matthew 26:39)