

# Our Great Shepherd

Week One | Our Shepherd Leads Us | 11.05-06.2022

**Group Conversation Questions:** Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal study time or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

**Message Recap:** Recognizing Jesus as our great shepherd is reassuring, realizing we don't have to have it all figured out and that he is guiding us and walking with us in all our uncertainties. It also requires we acknowledge some things about ourselves and our needs, even if we don't always recognize them.

## » Opening

(3 minutes)

- Introductions - This is especially important if this is your first meeting or if there are new members.
- Housekeeping - Clarify expectations:
  - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting.
  - **Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - Open your time together in prayer.

## » Introduction

(12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What sheep-like tendencies do you have in your life? (Ex. wandering off, being anxious, getting distracted, hierarchical, etc.)
- Digging Deeper: Describe a time in your life when you were lost. How did you find your way back?

## » Observation | Read Psalm 23, John 10:1-18

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to these passages? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

## » Key Principle | Jesus meets our Need when we let him Lead.

(12 minutes)

- How do you define your needs?
- Who or what leads you? What are your criteria for someone to lead you?

## » Who's Your Shepherd | Reread Psalm 23:1; John 10:1-3; 1:14; Isaiah 40:9-11; Ezekiel 3:1-10

(12 minutes)

- Compare the Good Shepherd to the deceptive shepherds described in Ezekiel 34. What are their differences?
- Are we content with Jesus as our Shepherd? Do we lean more heavily on Jesus or earthly leaders to shepherd us?

## » You're a Sheep | Reread Psalm 23:2-3; John 10:4; Isaiah 40:25-26; Ezekiel 34:11-12

(12 minutes)

- What is the significance of knowing someone's name? How can we trust the guidance of those that know us?
- Do we feel spiritually scattered? What does it mean to be restored for His name's sake?

## » What Do You Need? | Reread Psalm 23:1-3; John 10:7-18; Isaiah 40:28-31; Ezekiel 34:13-16; Matthew 26:26-29

(12 minutes)

- List the promises in these passages for those that follow the Good Shepherd. Do they match the needs of this world?
- Discuss the concept of being fed, from the standpoint of Jesus' covenant and The Word being Jesus' flesh.

## » Next Steps and Prayer |

(15 minutes)

- What does it mean for you to be led by Jesus? More specifically, what does it mean for you to follow your Great Shepherd?
- Close by praying for one another to remember who Our Great Shepherd is and what it means to follow him with our hearts and minds.