

# Lesson 5: The Good Shepherd

Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, leads and provides for us.



## Study at a Glance: The 5 W's

KEY AREA	DETAILS AND SUMMARY
WHO (Author & Audience)	
WHAT (Core Message)	
WHEN (Timing)	
WHERE (Location)	
WHY (Rationale)	

**Introduction:** Who's voice do you listen to? Do you follow Jesus or the voice of a stranger?

Imagine being in a room with 100 people all talking at once. The noise level is almost deafening and you can barely hear what another person is saying. Someone enters the room through the front door and calls your name. Without using a microphone, their voice carries and you hear that person's voice through all the noise in the room. You hear it so clearly that it's as though they are right next to you. This is what it's like to hear the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Our lives are very busy and chaotic. There is always noise around us but those who follow Jesus will still hear his voice and will not misidentify it with a stranger's voice.

## Key Terms Defined

TERM	ORIGINAL WORD in Greek	DEFINITION (Contextual)
<b>Proclaim</b>		
<b>Hireling</b>		
<b>Enduring</b>		
<b>Abundant</b>		
<b>Raving mad</b>		
<b>Colonnade</b>		

## SECTION 1: Sheep know the Shepherd's voice (Read John 10:1-10)

In this his chapter we will see Jesus confirm that he is the "I AM" as he performs miracles and makes declarations of who he is. He also explains his mission here on earth from the Father, for the Father and as the Father all in one. Jesus also speaks through a parable to demonstrate where he fits in the lives of those who hear him and listen to his voice.

### Discussion Questions

1. **Text/Exegesis:** With all the noise and distractions in the world around us, how can we discern the voice of Jesus the "Good Shepherd" and not fall for the voice of an imposter?
2. How does prayer, Bible Study and worship affect our ability to hear the voice of Jesus and what should we do if we struggle to hear and discern that voice?
3. Jesus said, "I am the door". What is he actually saying and is there an alternative to what he is saying?
4. **Application:** Based on the roles in Jesus' parable, what role would apply to the Pharisees?  
a-wolf      b-robber& thieves      c-hireling      d-good Shepherd      e-gatekeeper

## SECTION 2: Jesus sacrifices himself for his sheep (Read John 10: 11-21)

Jesus explains how he is unlike any other Shepherd known to man, especially unlike a man hired to shepherd the flocks. Where some would not be willing to lay down their life to protect the flock, Jesus is willing to do so with his own life.

### Discussion Questions

1. **Text/Exegesis:** Everyone needs a little help sometimes. Hiring someone to handle certain tasks could make things much easier for you. In the parable Jesus told, how does he describe the Hireling?
2. The mission Jesus explained was to be the Good Shepherd for the sheep fold and also other sheep which "are not of this fold". Who is he talking about and what is the mission?
3. **Application:** With the knowledge you have about Jesus as the "Good Shepherd" and his mission to bring 2-folds under one shepherd, how does this knowledge help you evangelize the Gospel message or to have a discussion with other religions who believe they are the only chosen people?

### SECTION 3: The Shepherd knows his sheep (Read John 10: 22-30)

Just as the sheep are expected to know the voice of the shepherd and follow it, the shepherd will know his sheep, lead them and protect those that follow him.

#### *Discussion Questions*

1. **Text/Exegesis:** How would you explain being “spiritually deaf” and what are the dangers of being spiritually deaf?
2. The shepherd would plan to keep the sheep in the “sheep pen” for safety. They would be fenced in while the shepherd guarded the door. What Old Testament event reminds us of this same concept?
3. **Application:** *Any final thoughts?*

**Conclusion:** *It is a matter of life and death for the sheep to be able to hear and identify the voice of their true shepherd. They must trust him and follow him to safety and pasture. The sheep must not allow themselves to be deceived by wolves in sheep’s clothing. As believers of Jesus, we are his sheep, and he is our good shepherd. We must obey his voice, follow him to safety and enter through him (the door) to salvation.*