

## ENCOUNTER JESUS #18: John 10:1-21 THE WAY TO ABUNDANT LIFE

**EVERYONE WANTS LIVE THEIR BEST LIFE NOW:** Be best version urself – be happy prosperous – make good decisions –healthy relat – **WHO DOESN'T WANT THAT??**

Motiv podcasts, books, gurus, philos, pop culture/pop psychology – SH INDUSTRY 43.77 \$bill dollar ind, 5000 US Speakers take in 1.6 bill/yr, 75 millmillennials use SH services

**MP: Wanting a good life is wise. Knowing how to get there is everything.**

**HE KNOWS THAT .... HE KNOWS WHAT YOU NEED.... HE TELLS A STORY...**

Parable: Morning: Pastures were rented – multiple flocks and the doorkeeper would recognize the true shepherd. Shepherd would call his sheep and they knew his voice and would follow him out.

Afternoon: Take them to the pastures where there would be another enclosure/entrance that he would lay in front of (shepherd and door). Evening: protect sheep HIS PURPOSE GIVE THEM LIFE

- Jesus being savvy concerning human nat People and sheep are very similar

### LIKE SHEEP WE NEED TO BE LED

Sheep have no sense of direction, can't find their way home if their lost, find food/water

- HARDWIRED TO FOLLOW – 2005 Turkey 1500 followed 1 sheep CLIFF 450

Because they are hardwired to follow shepherds lead sheep they don't drive them.

- **Humans by nature are followers – by nature we follow all wrong things**
  - o Culture that misleads pose as question

1 Peter 2:25 For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls

- THERE'S ONLY ONE WILL LEAD YOU TO THE GOOD LIFE

Psalm 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. <sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. <sup>3</sup> He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

### LIKE SHEEP WE NEED HELP GETTING UP WHEN WE FALL DOWN

Sheep roll onto their backs the weight of their wool/flat (**video1**) – gas stomach, prey

- **The shepherd has to help them up – otherwise they die**
- **WE HAVE ALL FALLEN AND WE CAN'T GET UP on our own**

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

- Good shepherd will lift you up....SAVES YOU – CONTINUES 2 (**video2**)

### LIKE SHEEP WE NEED A DEFENDER

Don't have claws, fangs, big muscles, they don't strategize defense, strength # **FLEE**

- Absolutely and totally vulnerable – unless there's a shepherd

Psalm 23:4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death – I will fear no evil for you are with me your rod and your staff comfort me.

- Rod (for the predator) – staff (for when the sheep goes astray) - **VULNERABLE**
- **THE GOOD SHEPHERD LAYS HIS LIFE DOWN FOR THE SHEEP - CROSS**

Isaiah 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

### LIKE SHEEP THE VOICE OF THE SHEPHERD CALMS OUR ANXIETIES

Shepherds going into rented pasture – calling his sheep/name

- Among the many flocks the sheep knew the voice of shepherd - CALM

31 percent of U.S. adults reported symptoms of anxiety disorder in 2022. EXCESSIVE

- THE VOICE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD – CALM UR ANXIETY
  - o PEACE: PRINCE OF PEACE

John 16:33 I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace.

- FACT: Your brain cannot process anxiety and gratitude same time

Jesus produces a thankful heart.

**LIKE SHEEP WE HAVE A TENDENCY TO SETTLE FOR LESS**

Known to drink from a muddy puddle – instead of walking to clean water 20' away WHY

- Sheep settle for less because they don't know better – lazy – NEED SHEPHERD
- TOGETHER at church is so important \_COVID hangover. 10% DROP HIGHER
  - o Constantly choosing things that BRING LIFE NOT SETTLING FOR LESS
  - o To the crew that has opted for online (don't need it) TIME TO COME BACK
  - o Anxiety: Sheep can recognize 50 faces sheep / calms them slows heart rt

Satisfaction and Safety are directly proportional to PROXIMITY the closer you live to the good shepherd the more abundant your life will be.

- **ACCESS GRANTED**

Dylan everybody has to serve somebody – everyone is following someone