

Merry Christmas!!

We can't wait to celebrate with you this year. Please use the invite tab on our app to share and invite anyone to our Christmas gatherings!



DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Friday December 9	6pm	LOVE HAS COME: WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS EVENT
Sunday December 18	9am & 11am	Children's Program
Sunday December 18	1:30pm-3:30pm	International Ministry Christmas Potluck
Thursday December 22		No Service
Friday December 23	7pm	CHRISTMAS GATHERING
Saturday December 24	1pm 4pm 7pm	CHRISTMAS GATHERING
Sunday December 25	On Demand All Day	Special Christmas at Home Online Service
Thursday December 29	6:30pm	Dig Deeper
Sunday January 1	9am & 11am	Encounter Jesus

*Offices closed December 25 - December 31

CHRISTMAS
AT AWAKEN LAS VEGAS

A graphic for 'CHRISTMAS AT HOME ONLINE'. The background is red. On the left, there is a collage of geometric shapes in white, orange, teal, and grey. The text 'CHRISTMAS AT HOME ONLINE' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom right, it says 'DECEMBER 25 ON DEMAND ON YOUTUBE AND OUR WEBSITE ALL DAY' in a smaller white font.



ENCOUNTER JESUS

Week 18 | THE WAY TO ABUNDANT LIFE | John 10:1-21

WANTING THE GOOD LIFE IS WISE; KNOWING HOW TO GET THERE IS EVERYTHING

Everyone wants to live their best life right now. You want to be the best version of yourself. You want to be happy and prosperous. You want to make wise and good decisions and have healthy relationships. Who doesn't want that? However, the number of resources promising to be able to take you there is extraordinary. Everything from motivational podcasts, books, and speakers to pop psychology and self-help gurus claim to have the corner on the market. Did you know the self-help industry is a 47.5-billion-dollar industry? There are 5000 self-help speakers in the U.S., raking in a total of \$1.6 billion/yr and drawing in 75 million millennials to their services. Now, this isn't to say that some of those platforms and outlets don't have good advice to offer, but they are no replacement for the Good Shepherd. The best life you could ever live is only found by following the Shepherd Who laid His life down for His sheep. He claimed to be able to give you a life overflowing with goodness, and you can be sure He is able to do it.

Leaders: Take your group through each section: **Pray, Reflect, and Reach.** Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



PRAY (10 min)

As a Life Group, take time to reflect and pray over this weekend's message. Reflect on how Jesus has brought you the good life. Spend time thanking Him for specific things He has brought to you or done for you.



REFLECT (25 min)

As you've had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. Sheep are hardwired to follow. And they will follow anything, even to their own demise. Humans are also followers, and we are hardwired because of the fall to follow the wrong things. **So how do you distinguish between what is right to follow and wrong to follow? How do you practically follow Jesus, and how has that led you to the good life?**

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; I SHALL NOT WANT. HE MAKES ME LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES. HE LEADS ME BESIDE STILL WATERS. HE RESTORES MY SOUL. HE LEADS ME IN PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME'S SAKE.

PSALM 23:1-3

2. According to the study, there are two things that calm the anxieties in sheep, the voice of the Shepherd and the faces of other sheep. Studies have shown that sheep can recognize the faces of up to 50 other sheep. For the Christian, the voice of the Good Shepherd is the ultimate source of peace, but the community of believers also serves in this regard. **Describe the importance of both and how important staying close to Jesus, and His people is for calming your anxieties. Then, describe how you do this.**

I HAVE SAID THESE THINGS TO YOU, THAT IN ME YOU MAY HAVE PEACE.

JOHN 16:33A

INTERESTING FACT: IT IS A NEUROLOGICAL FACT THAT YOUR BRAIN CAN'T PROCESS ANXIETY/FEAR AND GRATITUDE AT THE SAME TIME.

3. Sheep settle for less. They will stop at a muddy puddle to drink even though a still pond with clear water may be 20 feet away. The human tendency is to settle for less than God's best. **How can you guard yourself against this tendency? Is there any area in your life that you're settling for less?**



WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

Psalm 23

DEEPER DIVE: READ AND STUDY PSALM 23. NOTE THE WAYS THAT THE GOOD SHEPHERD CARES FOR HIS SHEEP.



RESOURCE TO BUILD DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH HOLY SPIRIT



Encounter Jesus Page

Pastor Derek has assembled additional resource to help you build a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit on the sermon series page on our website. You can find it by scanning here or click on the link found on our homepage.



REACH (5 min)

Considering what God revealed to you this week, make a point to enjoy the good life that Jesus has given to you. Then, identify any influence that is stealing or destroying those good things and relentlessly cut those bad things or influences out of your life.