

sermon notes

SIMPLY JESUS

Part 4: Jesus My Shepherd

“You’ll remember, friends, that when I first came to you, I didn’t try to impress you with polished speeches and the latest philosophy. I deliberately kept it plain and simple: first Jesus and who he is; then Jesus and what he did - - Jesus crucified.”

1 Corinthians 2:1-2 MSG

In the seven weeks leading to Easter, we’ll be discussing various attributes of God who became man and dwelt among us in the person of Jesus Christ. Like the Apostle Paul, we’ll resolve to know nothing but Jesus – both who He is and what He did for us on the cross, for all eternity.

MY SHEPHERD

“The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life. ‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.’”

John 10:10-11 NLT

“Acknowledge that the Lord is God! He made us, and we are his. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture.”

Psalms 100:3 NLT

“Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly—not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God. Don’t lord it over the people assigned to your care but lead them by your own good example. And when the Great Shepherd appears, you will receive a crown of never-ending glory and honor.”

1 Peter 5:2-4 NLT

The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. Even when I walk

through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever.”

Psalm 23:1-6 NLT

1. *The Shepherd* provides .

“And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:19 NLT

2. *The Shepherd* restores .

“I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.”

John 14:27 NLT

3. *The Shepherd* leads .

“The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice. They won’t follow a stranger; they will run from him because they don’t know his voice.”

John 10:3-5 NLT

4. *The Shepherd* supports .

“The first time I was brought before the judge, no one came with me. Everyone abandoned me... But the Lord stood with me and gave me strength.”

2 Timothy 4:16-17 NLT

5. *The Shepherd* defends .

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.”

John 10:11 NLT

6. *The Shepherd* _____ *blesses* _____ .

“Now may the God of peace—who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood—may he equip you with all you need for doing his will. May he produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him. All glory to him forever and ever! Amen.”

Hebrews 13:20-21 NLT

OUR RESPONSE

✓ _____ *Know* _____ *the Shepherd.*

“I know my sheep and my sheep know me.”

John 10:14 NIV

Consider and Discuss

- Of the four attributes we've studied in the first three weeks of the series, Jesus as a personal friend, teacher, miracle worker and now shepherd, which has been most meaningful for you? Share any surprises or special insights from these teachings.
- Jesus had described us as His family, His unified fellowship, His body and His flock. Share examples of how you've experienced Jesus in each of these ways.
- Take turns describing positive experiences with pastors in your life. In what ways did they model Jesus, the Pastor who cares for us all?
- [Read Psalm 23:1-6] Have you ever had to quiet a distraught child or anxious loved one, even against their will? What did you do to overcome their resistance – for their own sake, so they could get much needed peace and rest? Share how Jesus has done the same for you.
- When we “restore” an electronic device, we wipe out “viruses” and corrupted files and return it to its original factory settings. Equate this with the way Jesus restores our troubled soul.
- God leads us in the path of righteousness for His name's sake. Have you ever traveled a path that does not have His name on it? Describe what it's like to live on the right path.

