

(1) How does it affect you to know that Jesus knows you “by name”? What does this mean? It surely means more than he knows the name by which you are called in this world. What does it suggest in terms of our relationship of intimacy with him?

(2) What impact does it have on you to know that you are “his own”? What are the implications of this? How does it affect your sense of personal identity? How should it influence the way you live and how you deal with rejection and abandonment by others?

(3) Read John 13:1 and talk about the meaning of how and why Jesus referred to his disciples as “his own.” How does the context of this statement affect its meaning? In other words, Jesus is in the upper room with his disciples on the night he would be betrayed and abandoned. How does this add to the significance of his calling them “his own”?

(4) What did Jesus mean when he said he came to give us “abundant” life? What does this *not* mean? How have people misunderstood it? In what sense is your life in and with Jesus “abundant”?

(5) What is the significance of Jesus saying that he lays down his life for the sheep of his own accord?