

## Sermon Text Discussion 5/3/2020

---

I am the Good Shepherd (Drew Hunter)      John 10:1-21

### Overview

---

We continue in our series looking at the seven 'I am' statements of Jesus in the gospel of John. It is important for us to have an accurate understanding of the real Jesus and there is no better way than to study the specific claims He made of himself. Today we look at His claims of "I am the door" and "I am the good shepherd". Immediately preceding Jesus making these claims, He had healed a man blind from birth. He did it on the Sabbath and He had argued with the religious leaders, who were known as shepherds according to Jewish tradition. The comparison Jesus then makes between 'the good shepherd' and thieves would have been seen as being directed at the religious leaders.

We will look at this text from three perspectives:

- The door
- The shepherd
- The sheep

### Understanding & Application

---

- 1) We all play the role of shepherd in some settings – as leaders, supervisors, parents, friends, etc. Drew indicates the image of 'shepherd' is one of both strength and affection. How are both of these qualities important in your shepherding responsibilities? Do you feel better equipped in one of these attributes versus the other?
- 2) Explain what you think Jesus meant (vs 7-10) by calling Himself the door of the sheep. How can you tell sheep, or leaders of sheep, who have entered the flock through Jesus versus by those who have bypassed the real Jesus? Do they look different or behave differently?
- 3) The Jewish leaders would have been very familiar with Ezekiel 34. Based on this Old Testament prophecy, why was Jesus's claim to be 'the good shepherd' such a powerful statement? Exactly what prophecy was Jesus claiming to fulfill? Why would the Jewish leaders be so angry and upset at this claim?
- 4) All of us have replaced the true good shepherd, Jesus, with other 'shepherds' – other people and things we look to for strength and affection. What are your 'shepherds'? What is the impact of allowing these false shepherds to replace the true good Shepherd?
- 5) Sheep respond to their shepherd in three ways – they listen, they know, they follow. Describe what each means, as it relates to our relationship with Jesus. Answer the following questions for each:
  - a. How am I currently doing when it comes to (listening to, knowing, following) Jesus?
  - b. How tangible step can I take to improve?