

2nd Week of February
Jesus, the Good Shepherd

- **Text:** John 10:11~15 (February 5)
- **Bottom line:** Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for us.

≡ **1. Prayer**

Loving God, thank you for being with us every day with Your great grace. Through worship, please engrave in our hearts how great and wide Your love is.

≡ **2. Praise**

하나님의 음성을 듣고자 기도하면

≡ **3. The Word**

Read John 10:11~15 together (read the verse 3 times).

* Reading the Word over and over again in different translations will help you to deepen your understanding of the material.

<ESV>

¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.

<NASB>

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. ¹² He who is a hired hand, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters *the flock*. ¹³ *He flees* because he is a hired hand and does not care about the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd, and I know My own, and My own know Me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

Understanding Text

We are the sheep and Jesus is the shepherd who takes care of us with love. The "hired one" who takes care of the sheep for money abandons the sheep and runs away when they are in danger. The Good Shepherd, on the other hand, does not spare his life to protect the sheep. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for us.

□ Understanding the text for leaders

Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd." He said. In the Gospel of John, when Jesus introduces Himself, the expression "I am ~" often appears. This is Jesus' emphasis on who He is. In the Gospel of John, Jesus describes himself "bread of life" (6:35), the light of the world (8:12), the door (10:7), the "good shepherd" (10:11), "the resurrection and the life" (11:25), and "the way and the truth." "life" (14:6) and 'the true vine' (15:1). The phrase "good shepherd" in the text is a metaphor for our relationship with Jesus. In Palestine, it is common to see shepherds taking care of their sheep. Most of the time, they took care of the sheep themselves, but when there were a lot of them, they would hire someone to take care of them for a fee. Jesus compares the "good shepherd" to the "hireling." When a hireling encounters a herd of wolves in a field, he often abandons the sheep and runs away alone, fearing that he might die. But the shepherd, who is the real owner, cherishes and loves his sheep, so he protects them at all costs and dangers. Doing. That's why Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd." That's what he said. It means that because he cares and loves his flock, he guards and protects them from all dangers. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, loves His sheep to the point of giving His life for them. Jesus gave Himself to die on the cross to save us from our sins and death. We are so reassured and grateful that Jesus, who gave His life because He loves us, is our Shepherd. The voice that we, like the weak and foolish sheep, should follow is the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Like David, who sang of God being a shepherd and leading us to green pastures and calm waters (Psalm 23:1~6).

4. Sharing

1) Jesus compared the Good Shepherd to the hireling. What is the difference between a Good Shepherd and a hireling? (verses 11~14)

■ Upper Grades

Find a passage that shows how much Jesus, the Good Shepherd, loves us and write it down below. (verses 11~14)

■ Lower Grades

How do we know that Jesus is the Good Shepherd? (verses 11~14)

□ Question Guide

When a wolf comes and threatens to bite a sheep, compare how the Good Shepherd and the hireling behave differently.

□ Comments for Leaders

Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd." He said. The Jewish people, who were familiar with the lives of sheep and shepherds, must have understood the meaning of this parable. The shepherd usually stays with the sheep and takes great care of each of them, knowing their characteristics and personalities. However, the hired man who took care of the sheep instead of the owner for money often abandoned the sheep and ran away when his life was in danger. That's why Jesus compared the Good Shepherd to the hireling. The Good Shepherd takes care of each of his sheep and loves them. They love their sheep so much that they even lay down their lives to save them. Jesus is such a shepherd. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who endured death on the cross to save us.

2) What do you listen to or follow the most these days? How can we hear and follow the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd ?

■ **Upper Grades**

How can I listen to the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd who knows and loves me best?

■ **Lower Grades**

Say to Jesus, the Good Shepherd, "Thank you for loving me and protecting me."

□ **Question Guide**

We're always following something. Share what you usually listen to or care about the most, and think about why it's important to follow Jesus. Share what it is to follow Jesus in your daily life, what you need to do to live according to Jesus' words, and how your life will be different when you do so. Imagine Jesus as the Good Shepherd and talk about how He treats you like a sheep.

□ **Comments for Leaders**

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, always takes care of me and keeps me safe. If I'm going to the wrong place, please warn me to come back, and if I'm sad or upset, comfort me and pat me on the back. Please pay close attention to what I like and what I don't like, take care of me with love, and support me from the sidelines. Those who rely on Jesus can live safely in a harsh world where they don't know when danger will come. Remember the Lord, the Good Shepherd who guides us in good ways, and commit together to live our lives according to Him alone.

≡ **5. Be Grateful**

Thank God for the gift of salvation, peace, and security through Jesus, the Good Shepherd.

≡ **6. Prayer**

Thank you, Lord, for being the Good Shepherd and leading us to the safest path. Let us stop clinging to our own way and trying to go the wrong way, and let us only listen to the voice of the Lord and walk the way to heaven.

- End the family worship service with the "Lord's Prayer"

1. Once the map of the way to the church is complete, it will be beautifully decorated.
2. Post it in a visible place in your home.

As you draw a map, think about how you need to get there quickly and why you need a map. In the old days, when transportation and roads were not as developed as they are today, maps played a very important role. Share how reassuring it must have been to know that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, was leading the way.

* Preparing for Sunday Service

After the family worship service, we prepare for the Sunday service together.

1. Remembering the importance of the Lord's Day and the preciousness of worship.
 2. Prepare for Sunday worship with your heart.
I try not to do anything else on Sunday so that I can focus on God.
 3. We carefully prepare offerings to God.
 4. Prepare modest clothing.
 5. I pray that it will be a Sunday service that God is pleased with.
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