

SERMON SERIES DISCIPLING GUIDE

Series: Abundance • Week One: The Voice of Abundance • Date: Jan. 26/27, 2019 • Speaker: Matt Boda

INTRODUCTION

Besides being white and fluffy, what do you know about sheep? From what you know - or what you discovered from the sermon this past weekend - how would you describe sheep and the way they behave to someone who has never experienced sheep?

READ TOGETHER

Read **John 10:1-11** together as a group.

1. Jesus uses the everyday stuff of life around Him to teach a lesson to His followers about abundance. In His story, what two characters serve in the "bad" and "good" roles in the life of a sheep?
2. How is the character serving in the "bad" role described by Jesus? What characteristics does he have?
3. How is the character serving in the "good" role described by Jesus? What characteristics does he have?
4. What two "roles" does Jesus put Himself in in these verses?
5. The idea of God being our shepherd is an image the Bible uses with some regularity. Read Psalm 79:13; 95:7; 100:3; and Isaiah 53:6. What do these verses tell you about your relationship with God?
6. Throughout these passages, what benefits are offered to those who know Jesus as their shepherd and gatekeeper?
7. How can you show love and devotion to Jesus because He is your Shepherd?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. The key verse in our new series is **John 10:10** with the key word being **abundance**. How would you define abundance from a personal point of view? How do you think a typical Calgarian would define it?
2. Let's try something different this week. If you can, have someone in your group look up the following web address which provides insight into what this word "abundant" means: <https://biblehub.com/greek/4053.htm>. What does this page teach you about this word and its meaning as Jesus uses it?
3. When Jesus says "I have come to give you *abundant life*" or *a rich and satisfying life*" - how do you expect what Jesus is offering differs from what our culture would define as *abundance*"?
4. How can you live life in a way that you lean into the abundance Jesus offers?

PRAYER

Give the group time to think of someone in your life who is not experiencing the abundant life Jesus offers. Share with the group who your person is and then take the time to go around the circle and ask God to bring that person to Himself. Ask yourselves: *What could I do to lean into my relationship with this person to encourage them toward becoming a disciple of Jesus?*