

John Chapter 10 – Prayer Meeting Questions (6/16/2021)

NIV Serendipity Bible for Study Groups

Read John 10:1-21

1. As a child, what was your favorite pet? How did this pet respond when it heard your voice?
2. What do the sheep, shepherd, and stranger represent?
3. What is the relationship of the shepherd to his sheep? How do the sheep respond to the shepherd? How does this relate to the Pharisees' difficulty in understanding Jesus?
4. What does Jesus mean by likening himself to a gate for the sheepfold? (v7)
5. How is Jesus unlike the "thieves and robbers"? (vv. 8-10) In this context, who are the "thieves and robbers"?
6. How does Jesus identify himself with the "good shepherd"? (vv. 11-15)
7. How does Jesus' death relate to his promise in verse 10?
8. Who are the "other sheep" he must bring also?
9. What final claim does Jesus make? (vv. 17-18)
10. Why do his listeners respond as they do (divided)? How do you think you would have responded?
11. What turning point in your life was significant for you in terms of hearing "God's voice" and responding?
12. How do you discern God's voice from those of so many others that vie for your attention?

Read John 10:22-42

13. What is the big annual "feast day" for your family? Who usually comes? What is served?
14. What family traditions are you going to preserve for your family?
15. Given the meaning of Hanukkah (when Jews celebrate their deliverance during the Maccabean revolt), what feelings about Rome's authority might surface among the crowds?
16. How would the Roman authorities prepare for this great feast? Given these tensions, what might be the real intent of the Pharisees' question in verse 24?
17. How does Jesus push things even further? Why? How does He diagnose their problem?
18. How do the leaders interpret Jesus' claim to be one with God? How does Jesus side-track them (v 34)? Consider Psalm 82:6 What evidence does Jesus offer?
19. What could account for the difference in reception Jesus received across the Jordan (vv. 40-42)?
20. What has convinced you that Jesus is the Messiah? What "old ways" of looking at Jesus must you overcome by faith?
21. What difference does it make that Jesus is God and not just a man? Would the promise of verse 28 mean much otherwise?

Other Jesus as the Good Shepherd Questions:

1. I have always thought of Jesus as:
 - a. Superman – coming to my rescue
 - b. Hired hand – paid to do a job
 - c. Thief – taking away my most prized possession
 - d. Shepherd – constant companion, caretaker, and guide
 - e. Stranger

2. In this story, who do the sheep represent?
 - a. Followers (as opposed to leaders)
 - b. All the people of the world
 - c. Christians

3. Why do you think Jesus used sheep in his example?
 - a. They are helpless without a shepherd
 - b. Their eyesight is poor
 - c. They are lovable
 - d. They are pretty dumb animals

4. A shepherd who knows his sheep by name has:
 - a. A phenomenal memory
 - b. Incredible love
 - c. Nothing better to do
 - d. An appreciation of the uniqueness of each sheep
 - e. Infinite patience

5. Who has the responsibility for keeping shepherd and sheep together?
 - a. The shepherd to gather and lead the sheep
 - b. The sheep to follow the shepherd

6. The basic point of this story is that:
 - a. Jesus is vigilant against intruders
 - b. Jesus is committed to his sheep
 - c. Jesus lays down his life for his sheep
 - d. Jesus protects his sheep from anyone who would harm them
 - e. Jesus gives his sheep the good life
 - f. Jesus wants to expand the fold

7. The nursery rhyme that best describes my relationship to the Good Shepherd is:
 - a. Mary Had a Little Lamb
 - b. Little Bo Peep
 - c. Baa-Baa Black Sheep
 - d. Little Boy Blue

8. If I were to follow the shepherd, it would be because I need:
- a. Protection
 - b. To be fed
 - c. Security
 - d. Someone who knows me by name
 - e. Direction
9. When I do not follow the shepherd, it is because:
- a. The grass is greener somewhere else
 - b. I feel like a black sheep
 - c. I have fallen asleep in the grass
 - d. No one else around me is coming along
 - e. I am too timid
 - f. I do not know any better
10. The most reassuring thing about his passage for me is that:
- a. Jesus always has his eye on me
 - b. All my needs are met by the Good Shepherd
 - c. I have been accepted just the way I am
 - d. No thief or stranger can take me away from Christ
 - e. Others I love will be brought into the fold eventually
11. As a group or family, “count sheep” by listing some of the blessings you have received from the Good Shepherd.
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| SHEEP 1 | _____ |
| SHEEP 2 | _____ |
| SHEEP 3 | _____ |
| SHEEP 4 | _____ |
| SHEEP ETC. | _____ |