SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

GROUP WORKSHEET · OBSERVE · INTERPRET · APPLY

John 10

The Door and the Good Shepherd

NAME _____ DATE _____

KEY VERSE · JOHN 10:11 · NASB

"I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep."

Jesus is still speaking to the men who threw the healed beggar out. He paints a picture of a shepherd, a door, thieves and a wolf, and later at the Feast of Dedication makes a claim that brings out the stones again.

BEFORE YOU ANSWER

1. Read John 10 straight through, then a second time slowly with a pen.
2. Mark what you see: God · commands · repeated words · sin / warnings · promises · time / place.
3. Answer from the text first. Write the verse number beside every answer.

COUNT THE KEY WORDS

Find each word in John 10. Tally it and note the verses. What does John keep coming back to?

WORD	HOW MANY?	VERSES
sheep		
shepherd		
door		
voice		
life		
Father		

JOHN 10:1–6 The Figure

1 OBSERVE

How does the shepherd enter, and how does the thief enter (10:1–2)? What does the shepherd do with his sheep (10:3–4)?

2 INTERPRET

Jesus is still talking to the Pharisees from 9:40–41. Read Ezekiel 34:1–10. Who are the thieves and robbers?

JOHN 10:7–10 I Am the Door

3 OBSERVE

What does Jesus promise the one who enters through Him (10:9)? Contrast what the thief comes to do with what Jesus came to do (10:10).

4 INTERPRET

Guzik explains that a shepherd lay across the opening of the fold at night: "The shepherd was in fact the door." What does it mean that there is only one door (see Acts 4:12)?

5 APPLY

Guzik: "Abundant life isn't an especially long life." What is abundant life, and can a man have it in a cell, a hospital or a hard marriage?

JOHN 10:11–18 I Am the Good Shepherd

6 OBSERVE

What does the good shepherd do, and what does the hired hand do when the wolf comes (10:11–13)?

7 OBSERVE

What does Jesus say about His own death in 10:17–18?

8 WEIGH THE TEACHERS

Sproul: the death of Christ "was voluntary." Guzik: "Anyone can lay down his life; only Jesus could take His life up again." Henry calls it "such a challenge as was never given by the most daring hero." What does a voluntary cross tell you about Jesus?

9 INTERPRET

Who are the "other sheep, which are not of this fold" (10:16)?

10 APPLY

Where in your home, work or ministry have you acted like a hired hand, there for what you get and gone when the wolf comes?

JOHN 10:19–21 Division

11 OBSERVE

What two opinions divided the Jews (10:20–21)?

JOHN 10:22–30 The Feast of Dedication

12 OBSERVE

When and where is this, and what do the Jews demand (10:22–24)?

13 OBSERVE

List what Jesus' sheep do and what He does for them (10:27–28).

14 WEIGH THE TEACHERS

Sproul: "We are secure, not in ourselves, but because of the One in whose hands we are held." Spurgeon: "A double-handed force keeps them safe against all ill." Many Arminian Christians agree no outside power can snatch a sheep but hold a sheep may stop following. What does 10:27 say about who the secure sheep are?

15 INTERPRET

Jesus says, "I and the Father are one" (10:30). The Greek *hen* is neuter: one thing, not one person. What does that rule out on both sides?

JOHN 10:31–39 Stones

16 OBSERVE

Why did the Jews pick up stones (10:33)?

17 INTERPRET

Jesus quotes Psalm 82:6, "you are gods" (10:34). Does that teach that men are divine?

JOHN 10:40–42 Beyond the Jordan

18 OBSERVE

What did people say beyond the Jordan, and what was the result (10:41–42)?

19 APPLY

John did no miracles, but everything he said about Jesus was true. What would it take for that to be said of you?

WORD STUDY The Greek behind the English

20 WORD *harpazō* · G726 · to seize by force, to snatch

The wolf "snatches" the sheep (10:12). Jesus says twice no one will snatch them from His hand or the Father's (10:28–29). What comfort does that give a man who feels weak?

21 WORD *kalos* · G2570 · good, noble, beautiful

Jesus is not just a competent shepherd but the *kalos* shepherd (10:11). What makes Him good in this chapter?

PUT IT TOGETHER The chapter as a whole

The theme. In one or two sentences of your own, what is John 10 about?

Jesus. What does this chapter show you about who Jesus is that you want to remember?

This week. What one thing will you do because of this chapter, and which brother will you tell?

Around the table. Prayer requests and what the other men saw that you missed.