**A Sheep of Christ's Flock**

**Text**

**Psalm 95:7 -** For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.*...*

**Psalm 100:3** Know that the Lord Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

**Overview**

The Bible frequently mentions sheep and shepherds, and Christ has lovingly claimed us as the sheep of His pasture. This lesson examines some Bible principles for how we, as sheep, should respond to the Good Shepherd.

**Lesson Theme**

As God's sheep, we need to hear His voice, follow His leading, and remain in His care.

**Lesson Objectives**

At the conclusion of the lesson, each student should:

* Commit to reading and meditating on God's Word regularly.
* Consecrate themselves to faithfully follow the Shepherd's leading.
* Be fully convinced of God's trustworthiness to keep His promises and care for them.

**Teaching Outline**

* Hear the Shepherd's Voice-Allegiance
  + Constantly feed.
  + Submit to the Shepherd's control.
* Follow the Shepherd's Lead-Action
  + Keep moving, or become stagnant.
  + Do not follow the crowd.
* Remain in the Shepherd's Care-Abiding
  + Depend on His protection.
  + Depend on His promises.

**Job 23:12 -** “I have not departed from the command of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.

**Psalm34:8 -** O taste and see that the Lord is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

**Psalm 119:103 -** How sweet are Your words to my taste! *Yes, sweeter* than honey to my mouth!

**1 Corinthians 3:2 -** I gave you milk to drink, not solid food; for you were not yet able *to receive it*. Indeed, even now you are not yet able

**Hebrews 5:12-14 -** For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food. **13**For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant. **14**But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

**Joshua 1:8 -** This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success.

**Psalm 1:1-2 -** How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! **2**But his delight is in the law of the Lord, And in His law, he meditates day and night

**Psalm 119:15 -** I will meditate on Your precepts and regard Your ways.

**Psalm 119:23 -** Even though princes sit *and* talk against me, your servant meditates on Your statutes.

**Psalm 119:48 -** And I shall lift up my hands to Your commandments, Which I love; And I will meditate on Your statutes.

**Psalm 119:78 -** May the arrogant be ashamed, for they subvert me with a lie; *But* I shall meditate on Your precepts.

**Psalm 119:148 -** My eyes anticipate the night watches, That I may meditate on Your word.

**1 Timothy 4:15 -** Take pains with these things; be *absorbed* in them, so that your progress will be evident to all.

**Psalm 139:23-24 -** Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts; **24**And see if there be any hurtful way in me, and lead me in the everlasting way.

**Psalm 5:8 -** O Lord, lead me in Your righteousness because of my foes; Make Your way straight before me.

**Psalm 32:8 -** I will instruct you and teach you in the way which you should go; I will counsel you with My eye upon you.

**1 Peter 5:8 -** Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

**Acts 20:29 -** I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock;

**Hebrews 10:25 -** not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

**2 Peter 3:18 -** but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him *be* the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

**Philippians 3:14 -** I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus

**Romans 14:12 -** So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

**2 Corinthians 5:10 -** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

**1 Corinthians 11:1 -** Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ

**Exodus 23:2 -** You shall not follow the masses in doing evil, nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after a multitude in order to pervert *justice*;

**1 Peter 5:8-9 -** Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. **9**But resist him, firm in *your* faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

**James 4:7 -** Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

**Psalm 121:4 -** Behold, He who keeps Israel Will neither slumber nor sleep.

**Psalm 23:4 -** Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

**John 10:27-29 -** My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; **28**and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. **29**My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of the Father’s hand.

**Psalm 9:10 -** And those who know Your name will put their trust in You, For You, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.

**Psalm 37:28 -** For the Lord loves justice and does not forsake His godly ones; They are preserved forever, But the descendants of the wicked will be cut off.

**Hebrews 13:5 -** *Make sure that* your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,”

**1 Corinthians 2:9 -** but just as it is written, “Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And *which* have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him.”

**John 14:27 -** Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.

**John 16:33 -** These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.”

**Romans 5:1 -** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

**Philippians 4:6-7 -** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. **7**And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**John 14:1-3 -** Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. **2**In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. **3**If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, *there* you may be also.

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 -** But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. **14**For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. **15**For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. **16**For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. **17**Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. **18**Therefore comfort one another with these words.

This is just a sampling of the *"exceeding great and precious promises"* God had given us (2 Peter 1:4). And these promises are backed by God's unfailing faithfulness. Our own past experiences also affirm God's reliability. Joshua testified of God's unfailing promises at the end of his life.

**Joshua 23:14 -** “Now behold, today I am going the way of all the earth, and you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one word of all the good words which the Lord your God spoke concerning you has failed; all have been fulfilled for you, not one of them has failed.

**Study Questions**

1. What does the rumination process of sheep teach us about how we feed on God's Word?

2. Who is our predator, and what is one way we can be protected from him?

3. Does the principle cautioning us not to follow the wrong crowd contradict the principle of needing to stay close to God's people? Why or why not?

4. What is the outstanding characteristic of the shepherd? How does this relate to our ability to trust God?

5. Describe a time in your life when you sensed the Holy Spirit warning you of danger (perhaps through His Word, your pastor, or another godly Christian). Did you heed or ignore His warnings? What was the outcome?

6. Are you as consistent and regular in digesting spiritual food (God's Word) as you are physical food? What changes can you make to give the spiritual food God provides the priority it deserves?

7. Flocks of sheep must be regularly moved to new pastures. In what ways have you grown in the past three months?

8. Do you have friends or acquaintances with whom you need to limit contact to avoid being drawn into temptation? List some.

**Memory Verses**

For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.*...*

(Psalm 95:7)

Know that the Lord Himself is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

(Psalm 100:3)