

WEEK NINE
THE TRUE SHEPHERD

SERMON NOTES

- As the true Shepherd, Jesus is the **DOOR** to the **GOOD LIFE**.

- Following Jesus means learning to recognize his **VOICE** and how it differs from other "**SHEPHERDS**"

- Your **SMARTPHONE** will never **DIE** for **YOU**.

- We serve a God who **SMELLS** like **SHEEP**.

READING PLAN

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
Jn 12:1-11	Jn 12:12-19	Jn 12:20-36	Jn 12:37-43	Jn 12:44-50

STUDY/DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some examples of the way our culture describes “the good life?” What sorts of images and words do our “shepherds” use?
2. Read Ezekiel 34:1-5. How does God describe Israel’s religious teachers? Read Ezekiel 34:11-15. What does God promise to do in the future?
3. Read John 10:1-10. How do we see Ezekiel’s prophecy reflected in Jesus’ teaching? (hint: who are the “thieves and robbers?”)
4. What does Jesus say he came to offer his people? What does it mean to have “abundant life?”
5. Read John 10:11-21. How does Jesus set himself apart from other “shepherds?” What are some examples of “shepherds” in our day that demand that we follow them?
6. Christian discipleship demands that we distinguish Jesus’ voice from all the other “shepherds” in our lives. What are some ways that Christians can learn to better recognize God’s voice?

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

- What do you think of when you hear the phrase “the good life?”
- Do you think that there are too many competing voices offering us the good life?
- [For your kids]: Whose voice influences you the most?