

**Vision: Helping People Win In Life** (on the foundation of a Personal & Growing Relationship with Jesus Christ)



**Mission: Helping People Win In Life** through environments designed to help them take their next steps in Christian Maturity.

Sunday, July 23, 2017

**Sermon Notes**

**IS GOD REALLY GOOD ALL THE TIME? “Living in the Goodness of God” (Series):**

***Jesus Is The Good Shepherd – Part 7***

**Pastor Bob Washington**

**Icebreaker:** What’s your favorite activity?

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**Scripture Reading: Psalm 23:1-4**

*“The Lord is my Shepherd, I have everything I need. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in the right paths for his name’s sake. Even when I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me! Your rod and your staff they comfort me.”*

Hebrews 13:20 -- “Jesus is the great shepherd of the sheep.”

**The Rod represents Power and Authority over the Flock**

**The Staff represents Care and Compassion to the Flock**

John 10:10b (GW) -- Jesus said: “I came so that my sheep will have life and everything they need. I am the good shepherd! The good shepherd gives his life for his sheep.”

**3 Benefits To Having Jesus As Your Shepherd:**

**1. Jesus Shows Me Compassion**

Matthew 9:36 -- “When Jesus saw the crowds, his heart was filled with compassion for them because they were hurting and didn’t know where to get help. They were like sheep without a shepherd.”

Matthew 20:28 -- Jesus said... “I came here not to be served, but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for many.”

**ACTION PLAN: Write out your pain on paper, read it in prayer and release it to your Good Shepherd.**

**2. Jesus Leads Me On The Right Course**

Psalm 23:3b (NRSV) -- “He leads me in the right paths for his name’s sake.”

John 10:4 (LB) -- Jesus: “(The Good Shepherd) walks ahead of the sheep; and they follow him, for they recognize his voice.”

Psalm 26:3 (TEV) -- David declares, “Your constant love is my guide; your faithfulness always leads me.”

### 3. Jesus Reaches Out To Catch (Rescue) Me

Matthew 18:12 -- *“If a shepherd has 100 sheep, and one wanders away and is lost, won’t he leave the 99 safe sheep to go search for the lost one?”*

Luke 19:10 – Jesus says: *“I came to seek and save those who are lost.”*

Psalms 119:67-68 -- *“I used to wander off until you disciplined me; but now I closely follow your word. You are good and do only good; teach me your decrees.”*

Isaiah 53:5 – *“But He was hurt for our wrong-doing. He was crushed for our sins. He was punished so we would have peace. He was beaten so we would be healed.”*

#### NOTES:

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#### Additional Scriptures:

Hebrews 12:7-11 – *“Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as his children. For what children are not disciplined by their father? 8 If you are not disciplined—and everyone undergoes discipline—then you are not legitimate, not true sons and daughters at all. 9 Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of spirits and live! 10 They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.”*

Psalms 119:71 -- *“It was good for me to be afflicted that I might learn your decrees”*

#### Questions For Discussion:

1. What does God do when we wander?
2. How do you keep from wandering off and avoid some things?
3. How does Jesus respond when you stumble? (Matthew 12:11)

#### Outline for Small Group (1 ½ hour)

- I. **Welcome:** Ice Breaker, Light Refreshments (20 min)
- II. **Worship:** Sing 2 Songs, Pray (7 min)
- III. **Word:** Discussion /Overview from preached message & Discussion Questions (43 min)
- IV. **Works & Witness:** What will you do to **serve** others and/or **share** Christ with others? How can you **partner** with your Small Group and/or entire Church? (10 min)
- V. **Win (Testimony):** What next step have you taken or are taking toward spiritual maturity in Christ Jesus? *Connecting, Growing, Serving, Sharing, Worshipping* (5 min)
- VI. **Will (Vision & Prayer):** Share the Vision and Mission of CCMS & Pray (ACTS) – Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving & Supplication (5 min)