

The Good Shepherd Ezekiel 34 / John 10:1-18

What Kind of Shepherd are We Supposed to Follow & Become Like?

Jesus said of himself in John 10:11 NIV "I am the good shepherd"

- What does it look like for the leaders of the church and his disciples to follow him?
- How should we follow his example in shepherding those around us?
- What is required of pastors/elders?
- What does a good shepherd look like in the local church setting, our home and in our city?

Old Testament Context:

- Ezekiel 34 ESV
- Isaiah 40:11 ESV
 - "He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young."

New Testament Context:

- John 18:1-18 ESV
- Acts 20:28 NIV
 - "Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood."

New Testament Context:

• 1 Peter 5:1-4 NIV "To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ's sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away."

What Does The Good Shepherd Do?

Psalm 23 ESV

- He Provides = Vs 1: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want"
- He Guides = Vs 2-3: "He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."
- He Protects = Vs 4: "Even though 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."

As Shepherds Over God's Flock, We Should Be:

- Self-sacrificing not self-serving
- Speaking truth not lies
- Empowering not controlling
- Submitting to the community & authority around us, not trying to dominate the community or authority around us

Jeremiah 23:1-5 ESV

"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" declares the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: "You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the Lord. Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the Lord. "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land."

Jeremiah 31:10 ESV

"Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.'

The Good Shepherd

- Do you need the Good Shepherd to provide, guide and protect you?
- Who is Jesus calling you to shepherd today?
- What is one action step you can take to become a better shepherd today?