

Discussion questions – February 15 - John 10:1-9 – first look at the Good Shepherd chapter...

- 1. IF WE ARE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK AND IF WE ARE TRULY GROWING IN OUR DESIRE TO KNOW GOD - How has God's Word impacted your life this week?**
- 2. How is everyone doing this week? Any new challenges? How have they seen God at work? (make this a regular feature, nothing encourages like reports of what God is doing in our lives.**
- 3. Any follow up or carry over from our last lesson?**
- 4. What one point resonated with you from the lesson this morning? What stands out the most to you from this lesson?**

- 5. What do you know about sheep? How many of you have some first-hand experience with sheep? How many of you have ever been in close proximity to sheep?! (not counting the petting zoo) From what you know about sheep (right or wrong) why does the Bible pick sheep as a point of reference for us to learn from?**
- 6. There are some relevant Old Testament passages about shepherds and sheep – read a couple of these. How do they add to the context of what Jesus is saying in John 10? What surprises you the most from these passages? (Isaiah 56:9-12; Jeremiah 23:1-2; Ezekiel 34:1-10; Zechariah 11)**
- 7. Jesus had no hesitation in calling out the religious leaders of his day. Today we would simply call them false teachers. Do you think it's appropriate for pastors (or others) to call out by name false teachers? Why or why not? Does it make you feel uncomfortable? How do you think Jesus' disciples felt when they heard Jesus speak about the religious leaders of their day?**
- 8. We live in an age of overwhelming information and media. Content is available from so many sources. What voices can we listen to that might not be in line with Jesus's? How do we discern whether a voice is one we should be listening to?**
- 9. How does it affect you to know that Jesus knows you "by name"? What does that mean? What does it suggest to you in terms of your relationship of intimacy with him?**
- 10. What impact does it have on you to know that you are "his own"? How should that influence the way you live? How does that help you deal with rejection and disappointment in relationship with others?**

What we take away... To know the shepherd better we need to be listening to his voice. He speaks to us clearly in his Word. (Are we listening?)