

FAITH FORMATION

connect. grow. lead.

Discussion Prompts

The Discussion Prompts are provided to dig deeper into a sermon with the respective title mentioned on the right side of this guide (you can find the sermons at www.manheimbic.org/sermon).

Connect

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, fellowship. Just arrive after a long week of all kind of things. - Ask: Who are you personally?

Care

Carry each others burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Cry together. Support each other. Pray together. - <u>Ask:</u> How are you doing?

Challenge

Dive into God's word to learn from each others insight. Encourage & challenge each other to a godly life. - <u>Ask:</u> What is God teaching us today?

Study Guide:

As we heard in Pastor Dwight's sermon the next I AM statement has it's roots deeply planted in the Israelite's history. Five-hundred plus years after the last statement of God being the shepherd, Jesus says now "I am the good shepherd!" (John 10:11). HE claimed to be the one to be followed. - As we try to make this practical, let's use Dwight's four key points to evaluate our personal life situation:

- 1. Jesus is the **good** shepherd because **he leads**: *Who* is your real leader? Do you take orders from your boss? Your spouse? Or is it more yourself? *Who* is the ultimate authority in your life, the one who's lead you ultimately follow? Be honest. Is it really Jesus?
- 2. Jesus **protects**: What or whom do you trust for protection? Not just from burglars or physical threats, but also from Life-drainers. From false prophets. From bad shepherds (pastors or teachers). Write down the names of people who you trust for protection. Why not go directly to Jesus for that same protection? What are your excuses?
- 3. Jesus' love is **for all**: This is big especially in today's cancel-culture. Jesus loves everyone. This includes those that are victims of the cancel-culture AND the once *you hate* for using this cancel-culture thing. Be honest, who came to your mind when you read the word "Cancel Culture". What group of people or what specific person? Jesus loves that person.
- 4. Jesus **sacrificed himself**: Next week we will learn in more detail about his sacrifice. Stay tuned in for the upcoming Easter service.

Given the description from Dwight for the character of a sheep, what is the role of the sheep in this whole scenario? What is *our* role? Re-watch that part of the sermon, if necessary, and answer this: *How* do you follow the shepherds lead? On a daily basis, what is it you **do** to be close to the shepherd Jesus Christ?

FOLLOWING - is the big word for today's sermon. The question now is: WHO? and HOW?

Clarify Celebrate

Know what's to do next, with the studies text, within the group, and in general. Have a mission for the week. - <u>Ask:</u> How do we apply what we have learned?

Celebrate life's success and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to *brag* about God. - <u>Ask:</u> What has God done in our life that deserves praise?

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. (Acts 2:42)



Initiate and nurture a Growing Relationship with Christ