

GRADUATE STUDIES IN CHURCH LEADERSHIP

COURSE 4: DETERMINED SHEPHERDS – Matthew 18:10-14

February 15, 2026

THE SITUATION:

- JESUS IS CREATING A LIST OF _____
_____ FOR _____ (_____)
IN _____ AND _____.

LESSONS ON LEADING LIKE THE “GOOD SHEPHERD”:

¹⁰ “See that you do not look down on any of these little ones.” Matthew 18:10a (BSB)

- QUESTION: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO “LOOK DOWN” ON LITTLE ONES?

- WE LOOK DOWN ON “THE SHEEP” WHEN WE...

² “...Woe to the shepherds of Israel, who only feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed their flock?... ⁴ You have not strengthened the weak, healed the sick, bound up the injured...”
Ezekiel 34:2, 4 (BSB)

- _____ TO _____ FOR THOSE WE LEAD

³ “You eat the fat, wear the wool, and butcher the fattened sheep.... ⁴ you have ruled them with violence and cruelty.”
Ezekiel 34:3-4 (BSB)

- _____ TO THOSE WE LEAD

⁴ “You have not... brought back the strays, or searched for the lost... ⁵They were scattered for lack of a shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild beasts. ⁶My flock went astray on all the mountains and every high hill. They were scattered over the face of all the earth, with no one to search for them or seek them out.”
Ezekiel 34:4-6 (BSB)

- LET THEM _____ WITHOUT _____

- LESSON #1: _____ SHEPHERDS ARE _____ SHEPHERDS.

¹⁰ “...For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of My Father in heaven.”
Matthew 18:10b (BSB)

¹⁴ “Are not the angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?”
Hebrews 1:14 (BSB)

- LESSON #2: GOD ALWAYS _____ HOW HIS _____ ARE
BEING _____.

- HE WILL _____ TO THE _____ OF HIS SHEEP.

¹¹ "...For the Son of Man came to save the lost."

Matthew 18:11 (BSB)

¹² "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them goes astray, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost?"

Matthew 18:12 (BSB)

- **LESSON #3:** _____ SHEPHERDS ARE _____ SHEPHERDS.

¹³ "And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices more over that one sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray."

Matthew 18:13 (BSB)

- A TRUE SHEPHERD'S DETERMINATION IS REFLECTED IN THE _____ ONE HAS IN _____ THE _____.

¹⁴ "In the same way, your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish."

Matthew 18:14 (BSB)

- A TRUE SHEPHERD'S DETERMINATION TO RESCUE THE LOST _____.

BOTTOM LINE:

OUR LEVEL OF _____ WILL BE _____ BY OUR LEVEL OF _____.

NEXT STEPS

- **PARENT FORUM**
 - Today after both services in the Conference Room.
- **EXPERIENCE THE FUNDAMENTALS**
 - 8 deep-dive sessions on Christian Basics, during 9am services, starting on February 22nd.
- **ASK THE TOUGH QUESTION:**
 - How can I show greater care and determination in meeting the needs of my sheep and/or in seeking the lost ones?