



SERMON STUDY GUIDE

“JOHN 10:22-42”

CONNECT

How did last week's passage we read/discussed affect your week?

DISCOVER

What did the passage say (in your own words) or what impacted you/did you take away from the sermon this week?

How does this passage or did the sermon point you to Jesus (teach us about Jesus)?

Did you find anything challenging about this passage (words you didn't understand, phrases that didn't make sense, etc.)?

JOHN 10:22-42 The writer of the Book of John describes who Jesus is by giving FACTS – fact after fact about things Jesus SAID, and fact after fact about things Jesus DID. John recorded these facts because he wanted us to believe in Jesus, and to surrender our lives to Him that we might find LIFE. The fact is, however, that at the time in Jesus' life when He was revealing all of these facts, the Jewish leaders just refused to believe what Jesus was saying – “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.”

THE SETTING: It was the time of the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem – what we know as Hanukkah. Prior to this time Jesus had been revealing who He was in a myriad of ways – through healings and miracles of every sort, through mighty acts, and through bold claims.

- Why do you think John chose to mention the Feast of Dedication here? How did this serve the story he was about to unfold?
- How did Jesus' response in Vs. 25 open the door for the lesson Jesus was about to teach? Why would this lesson have been so impactful in this setting?
- Why were the religious leaders unable to believe Jesus? How do we get caught up in the same trap in our own lives – how do we get in a position where we can't hear or see His voice in our lives?

WHOSE SHEEP ARE YOU? Jesus told the Jewish leaders they were not His sheep – that His sheep listened to His voice....He knew them...and they followed Him. Jesus is The Good Shepherd. The ONLY Good Shepherd. Do you hear His voice? How do you know it is HIS voice you are hearing? Do you KNOW He knows you? ARE you following Him? Jason gave us some filters to guide our thinking.....do a self-assessment.

- KNOWING HIS WORD: How does knowing His Word help us filter out voices that are NOT Jesus? How are you putting this filter to use in your life? How confident do you feel you are 'well-filtered' in this area?
- HEARING/LISTENING: In what ways can we be intentional about filtering what we are/are not hearing about who Jesus is and what He is doing or can do in our lives?
- KNOWING HIS VOICE – in order to know if it is His voice we are hearing, we must know OURSELVES – be TRANSPARENT – what do we need to recognize in our own lives – such as pride, insecurities, _____, before we can know it is His voice that Jesus' voice we are hearing? What do you need to filter out of your own character/perspective/priorities?
- THE SHEPHERD KNOWS HIS SHEEP. JESUS KNOWS US. What motivates you? Jesus compared the nature of a dog with a sheep. Recall his description – what were the differences, and how can they apply to our filter?
- THE SHEEP FOLLOW THE SHEPHERD. He knows what is best for us. Who or what are you following in this life? How is your life a testimony to this? Are you following The Good Shepherd, or are distractions pulling at you?



SERMON STUDY GUIDE CONT.

THE SHEPHERD LAYS DOWN HIS LIFE: Read verses 27 – 30. These are powerful, powerful verses full of meaning for us!

- Vs. 28 speaks of Jesus' GIVING us eternal life and that no one can SNATCH us out of His hand. What do those two ideas mean to you? How important is it to you that Jesus willingly gave His life, and that our redemption is secure, permanent? How does that impact your life each day?
- Vs. 29 and 30 tell us that God, greater than all, has given us to Jesus, and that God is holding tightly to our redemption just as Jesus is, for they are ONE. How do you respond to knowing that God has given you to Jesus? And how do you understand the concept that Jesus and the Father are ONE?

“Do not believe Me unless I do the works of My Father. But IF I do them, even though you do not believe Me, believe the WORKS.....” Everyone must take a FIRST STEP of trust, of belief. Trust is a journey in which we learn by DOING.

- Have you started the journey of trusting Jesus? What led you to the first step of believing? If you are not yet a follower, what would it take for you to boldly take that step?
- Once we have taken that first step, we begin a journey of continually trusting Jesus, and that can be challenging. Why is that? Look at Romans 7 and 8 to help you realize that we no longer are bound by the MINDSET of sin....do you truly recognize that you are FREE because of what the Good Shepherd has done for you?

RESPOND

- How does this passage encourage you, challenge you, or change you in your efforts to become more like Jesus?
- What is one thing you learned about yourself from God's Word? How will you respond in obedience this week?
- Who is someone you can have a conversation with about what Jesus is doing in your life or invite to join you at a CU Church gathering.

PRAY

... for each other and spend time praising God. Pray that he will show you how to better love God and love people.