

Adult Education – Jesus: The Promise Fulfilled
Sunday, February 11

The Old Testament is full of images of God being the Shepherd of his beloved nation, Israel. Shepherding was one of the chief occupations of Old Testament and New Testament times. It is easy to see why Jesus drew an analogy to himself as the Shepherd because his audience was very familiar with the nuances of that occupation.

1. Read Psalm 80:1 and Psalm 28:9. All of these refer to God as the Shepherd. As early as Genesis 48:15, Jacob is identifying God as His shepherd. Jeremiah 31:10 and Ezekiel 34:12 also speak of God as the shepherd of the Hebrew people. The history of the Hebrew people is filled with triumphs and tragedy and yet God was there as the Shepherd. In your life can you think of times when you felt The Shepherd guiding you through difficult times and joyful times?
2. Read Matthew 9:36 and Mark 6:34. What do these verses tell you about the Shepherd's heart for his flock?
3. Read all of John 10:1-30. What part of this description of shepherding that Jesus recounts is the most meaningful to you?