



NOW HIRING - Difference Makers

John 10:14&15

October 10, 2021 | Eric Smith

Sermon Summary

If you've binged watched everything there is to watch on Netflix and you're restless to make your life count, be a difference maker. A difference maker follows The Difference Maker. One of many words used in the bible to describe THE Difference Maker is Shepherd. The church is the Shepherd's flock. The individual members of the flock are given gifts to strengthen the church. The church is clearly the hope of the world! The church carries the truth of Christ, extends His love, and runs headlong into a brokenness with healing and hope. In order for the church, our church, to reach maximum redemptive potential every member must become A difference maker. To be A difference maker, you must KNOW and be KNOWN by The Difference Maker and seek to follow His example.

Diving Into The Message

A. Difference Makers know and are known by THE DIFFERENCE MAKER - Jesus.

THE DIFFERENCE MAKER IS . . .

(1) The Good Shepherd who passionately cares for His sheep.

"I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep."

John 10:14&15, NLT

Jesus loves you.

THE DIFFERENCE MAKER IS . . .

(2) The Great Shepherd who powerfully cares for His sheep.

Now may the God of peace — who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, and ratified an eternal covenant with his blood, may he equip you with all you need for doing his will. May he produce in you, through the power of Jesus Christ, every good thing that is pleasing to him. All glory to him forever and ever! Amen. Hebrews 13:20-21, NLT

Jesus believes in you.

B. Following the example of Jesus, Difference Makers, shepherd people like Jesus.

To Be A Difference Maker:

(1) I must LOVE.

- Difference Makers gather people and carry them close.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd. He will carry the lambs in his arms, holding them close to his heart. He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young. Isaiah 40:11, NLT

(2) I must SERVE.

- Difference Makers sacrificially invest in others.

I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep. John 10:14&15, NLT

(3) I must MODEL.

- Difference Makers pattern their lives on Jesus and inviting others to follow their example.

And you should imitate me, just as I imitate Christ. 1 Cor. 11:1, NLT

(4) I must EQUIP.

- Difference makers help others focus on what really matters.

I pray that your love will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in knowledge and understanding. For I want you to understand what really matters, so that you may live pure and blameless lives until the day of Christ's return. Philippians 1:9-10, NLT

- Difference makers help others live life well.

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father. Colossians. 3:16&17, NLT

C. Every believer can (must) do the work of shepherding in the church.

Here are a few difference maker opportunities in the church:

- Direct Discipling (Grow Series, disciple making)

- Deacon Ministry
- Mentoring Relationships (Mens and Women's Ministry, Preschool, Children's, Student Ministry)
- Ministry Teams and Committees
- Life Groups

To explore Difference Making opportunities at FBCG Gulfport:

Text: **Serve** to **228-265-5020**

or

Go to fbcgulfport.org/serve and click the See Where You Can Serve Link



**FAITH OF OUR FATHERS
MATTHEW 15:1-20
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Life Application Questions

1. According to John 10:1-15 what makes Jesus the “Good” Shepherd.
2. As “undershepherds,” pointing people to the Chief Shepherd, Jesus, we should have His character qualities. Think about your own life. In what ways do you need to become more like Jesus so you can be a more effective shepherd?
3. According to Hebrews 13:20-21, it is “through the power of Jesus Christ” that God works in our lives. What is He capable of doing? What has he done in your life?
4. Are you a difference maker? How are you loving? How are you serving? How are you modeling? How are you equipping?
5. What would help you KNOW the Difference Maker (Jesus) better? What helps can you church leaders offer to assist you on your journey of becoming a difference maker?