

## **Bible Study Outline (John Chapter 10)**

**The Title:** "Today, we are looking at John 10 in a study titled: '**The Good Shepherd and the Secure Flock.**'"

**The Theme:** "Our central theme is this: **The unwavering security of the believer is found in the sacrificial love and divine authority of Jesus Christ.**"

### ***Prophecies in the Old Testament Fulfillment in John 10***

#### **1. Ezekiel 34 (The Judgment and the Promise)**

Ezekiel 34 condemns corrupt "bad shepherds" and promises that God will personally rescue and gather His scattered sheep.

#### **2. Psalm 23 (The Intimate Care)**

Psalm 23 describes a Shepherd who leads, provides, and restores the souls of His sheep.

#### **3. Isaiah 40:11 (The Nurturing Leader)**

Isaiah foretells a Shepherd who gathers lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart.

#### **4. Zechariah 11 & 13 (The Struck Shepherd)**

Zechariah predicts a shepherd who is rejected and "struck," causing the sheep to scatter.

#### **5. Jeremiah 23:1-6 (The Righteous Branch)**

Jeremiah promises a "Righteous Branch" who will reign as a king and shepherd, bringing safety to the people.

### ***Outline John Chapter 10***

#### **I. Section 1: The True Shepherd vs. The Thief**

**Scripture:** John 10:1–6

**Focus:** Entering by the door vs. climbing in "another way."

#### **II. Section 2: Jesus as the Gate**

**Scripture:** John 10:7–10

**Focus:** Finding safety, freedom, and "abundant life" through the only entrance.

#### **III. Section 3: The Good Shepherd's Sacrifice**

**Scripture:** John 10:11–18

**Focus:** Laying down life for the sheep vs. the "hired hand" who flees.

#### **IV. Section 4: The Security of the Sheep**

**Scripture:** John 10:22–30

**Focus:** Hearing His voice and the promise that none shall perish.

## **V. Key Conclusions for John 10:31-42**

- a. The Witness of Divine Works
- b. The Authority of Scripture
- c. A Choice of Response
  - o The Critics
  - o The Seekers
- d. Divine Sovereignty

## **Group Discussion Questions**

- How does recognizing Jesus' **voice** (v. 4) protect us from modern "thieves and robbers"?

**John 10:4 NLT** 'After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice. '

- What does "abundant life" (v. 10) look like in your daily walk compared to the world's definition?

**John 10:10 NKJV** 'The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.'

- How does knowing Jesus is the **Gate** (v. 9) change how you view other spiritual paths?

**John 10:9 NIV** 'I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture.'

### ***Greek Terms (from the Original New Testament Text)***

The Gospel of John was written in Greek, so these terms directly reflect the specific words recorded by the apostle.

- **Shepherd (*Poimēn* / ποιμήν):** Refers to one who tends and herds a flock. It implies more than just a job; it suggests a role of providing, protecting, and leading.
- **Sheep (*Probaton* / πρόβατον):** Literally "that which goes forward". It generically refers to small animals in a herd, particularly domesticated sheep.
- **Sheepfold (*Aulē* / αὐλή):** Describes a courtyard or open enclosure, typically walled but unroofed, where the animals are kept at night for safety.
- **Door/Gate (*Thura* / θύρα):** The portal or entrance to the enclosure. In verse 9, Jesus explicitly identifies Himself as this single, legitimate entrance.
- **Gatekeeper (*Thyroros* / θυρωρός):** A porter or watchman who attends to the

- door and guards against unauthorized entry.
- **Thief (*Kleptēs* / κλέπτης):** A stealer who uses stealth, fraud, or trickery to take what does not belong to him. This is the root of the modern word "kleptomaniac".
- **Robber (*Lēstēs* / ληστής):** A brigand or bandit who uses violence or force to obtain booty (stolen good/treasure).
- **Abundant (*Perissos* / περισσός):** Used in verse 10, it implies something that is over and above, exceedingly beyond what is necessary.

### ***Hebrew/Aramaic Terms (Jesus' Likely Spoken Language)***

While John wrote in Greek, Jesus and His listeners spoke **Aramaic** and were intimately familiar with **Hebrew** scripture.

- **Shepherd (*Roeh* / רעה):** Derived from the root *ra'ah*, meaning to feed, graze, or pasture. A famous usage is Jehovah-Rohi ("The Lord is my Shepherd") in Psalm 23.
- **Sheep (*Seh* / שֶׁה or *Kebes* / כֶּבֶשׂ):** *Seh* is the general term for a single sheep or goat, while *kebes* specifically refers to a yearling lamb.
- **Flock (*Tzon* / צאן):** A collective term used to describe a combined group of small cattle, including both sheep and goats.
- **Gate (*Sha'ar* / שַׁעַר):** While John uses *thura* (door), the Hebrew context of a sheep enclosure entrance is often linked to the Sha'ar Ha-Tzon (the "Sheep Gate") in the walls of Jerusalem.
- **Thief (*Gannav* / גָּנַב):** Someone who steals secretly. The Hebrew root emphasizes the act of "stealing away" or deception.