

Leader's Guide

The Good Shepherd: Believe

John 10:31-42

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March 15, 2026

Opening:

Ask the group: "Think of a time when someone's actions showed their faith more than their words. How did it impact you?"

Discussion Questions & Leader Notes

1. In this passage, people respond to Jesus in very different ways. What do you notice about the reactions of the Pharisees compared to the people who eventually believed? What do you think caused the difference in their responses?

Follow-Up Questions:

- Why do you think some people can see God's work and still reject it?
 - Have you ever witnessed someone rejecting God despite clear evidence of His presence?
 - What factors do you think influence how people respond to Jesus today? (Ex: experience, perspective, upbringing)
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2. The Pharisees had knowledge of Scripture and saw Jesus' works, yet they still rejected Him. What might have kept them from believing? How can pride, control, or fear sometimes keep people from recognizing what God is doing?

Follow-Up Questions:

- Can you identify a time when pride or fear kept you from obeying God?
- How do personal preferences or comfort zones sometimes block us from following God fully?
- How can we check our hearts to make sure we are open to God's leading?

Scriptures to Reference:

- James 4:6 – “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”
- Proverbs 16:18 – “Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.”

Leader Tip: Remind the group that acknowledging areas of resistance is not shameful—it’s an opportunity for growth.

3. When you think about your own life, are there areas where you might be tempted to resist God’s leading because it feels uncomfortable, unfamiliar, or outside your preferences? What might God be inviting you to trust Him with?

Follow-Up Questions:

- Which areas of your life feel most challenging to surrender to God?
- How does fear or uncertainty show up when you sense God asking you to step out in faith?
- What might it look like for you to take a small but intentional step toward trusting God this week?

Scriptures to Reference:

- Proverbs 3:5–6 – Trust in the Lord with all your heart.
 - Isaiah 43:19 – God is doing something new.
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4. The people who believed were influenced not only by Jesus’ words but by His actions and the works He did. In what ways can your everyday actions (kindness, generosity, humility, or compassion) help others see Jesus more clearly?

Follow-Up Questions:

- What are some examples from your life where someone’s actions helped you see Jesus more clearly?
- How could your work, family life, or community interactions reflect your faith this week?
- What practical step can you take in the next 24–48 hours to make your faith visible to someone else?

Scriptures to Reference:

- Matthew 5:16 – “Let your light shine before others...”
 - James 2:17 – “Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”
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5. Jesus often stepped away to reconnect with the Father before continuing His ministry. What is one practical step you can take this week to deepen your connection with God so that your life reflects Jesus more clearly to the people around you?

Follow-Up Questions:

- How do you currently spend time with God each day? What works well, and what's challenging?
- What spiritual discipline could you try or strengthen - prayer, Scripture reading, worship, or solitude?
- How might being more intentional about connecting with God change the way you interact with others?

Scriptures to Reference:

- John 15:4–5 – “Remain in me, and I will remain in you.”
- Psalm 46:10 – “Be still and know that I am God.”