



BETTER THAN OKAY

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April 12, 2026

JOHN 10:9-15

SUNDAY REFRESHER

You ever notice how easy it is to settle into “okay”? Not terrible... not great... just existing somewhere in the middle. You’re functioning, but not flourishing. The days blur together - wake up, go to work, answer texts, go to sleep - and somewhere deep down you feel it... this quiet ache that whispers, this can’t be it. And yet, we learn to live there. We normalize it. We call it “life.” But what if “okay” isn’t neutral ground? What if it’s actually a slow drift away from the life Jesus came to give?

Jesus doesn’t step into that dull, flat existence and offer a slight upgrade. He draws a line in the sand. “I came that they may have life... and have it abundantly.” Not barely getting by. Not surviving. Abundantly. And then He tells us how - not through effort, not through self-improvement, but through relationship. “I am the good shepherd.” The One who leads, protects, restores, and ultimately lays down His life. Abundant life isn’t found in fixing yourself - it’s found in being led. Not the absence of problems, but the presence of a Shepherd who refuses to leave you in “okay.”

PERSONAL REFLECTIONS

- *What did God say to you through this passage and teaching?*
- *Did God reveal anything new to you?*
- *How is this relevant in your journey to make disciples who Love God and Love people?*

QUESTIONS

- *Where in your life have you quietly settled into “okay” instead of pursuing something deeper?*
- *What are some ways you’ve tried to improve or fix your life apart from actually following Jesus as your Shepherd?*
- *What would it look like for you to stop managing your life and start being led by the Good Shepherd?*

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Psalm 23

CONCLUSION

There’s a subtle danger in “okay.” It doesn’t feel like rebellion. It doesn’t look like collapse. It just slowly numbs you into accepting less than what God has for you. You start calling dullness normal. You trade fullness for maintenance. And before long, you’re alive... but not really living.

But Jesus steps into that exact space and offers something radically different. Not a formula. Not a life hack. Himself. The Good Shepherd who laid down His life so you wouldn’t have to wander aimlessly, settling for scraps. So maybe the most honest place to start is this: I’m not as alive as I thought I was. And maybe the next step isn’t trying harder - it’s finally letting yourself be led.

Knowing that life transformation happens best through intentional, meaningful relationships, don’t let this week’s sermon remain as mere information. In the next few days, look for ways to teach, challenge, encourage and/or pray about what you’re discovering!

