

Sunday, January 2, 2022 - "I Am a Sheep" - Kevin Dupree

Key Passages: John 10:11-16, Ezekiel 4, Galatians 5:19-20, Psalm 23:1-6

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- John 10:11-16
 - Jesus gives himself and "I Am" title (7 times in the book of John)
 - To help understand who he is
- I am the good shepherd...not just A shepherd but THE
 - There were and are other shepherds
 - We entrust our lives to shepherds...they need to be surrendered to Jesus
- I am a sheep
 - Every human being, believers and non-believers, are sheep
 - If we don't humble ourselves, we will fall to wolves
 - The good shepherd will walk with us
 - We have an enemy waiting for and studying us
- 3 sheepish flaws (how the enemy sees us)
 - 1) Dumb
 - We keep going a little further into sin
 - The enemy uses the same tricks and temptations
 - Galatians 5:19-20
 - All so the enemy can keep us from the Kingdom of God
 - 2) Directionless
 - Sheep are prone to wander
 - The enemy tries to lure us away and distract us
 - We can gauge when we're wandering when we are led by our own emotions/desires and not the word/Spirit
 - 3) Defenseless
 - We get isolated
 - A high pain tolerance (we don't show our weakness as a defense mechanism)
- 3 ways the good shepherd combats the enemy
 - 1) Provides (John 10:10)
 - Through TRUTH and WISDOM
 - Truth = knowledge about this life, Wisdom = how to apply that knowledge
 - 2) Protects (John 10:11)
 - He gives us boundaries...the abundant life is being able to explore and experience freely
 - The world is trying to destroy boundaries that God put in place to protect us
 - 3) Promotes (John 10:16)
 - We can come into the fold
 - He looks for those who are broken and devalued
 - Psalm 23:1-6
- When you encounter the good shepherd, you're not ashamed to say you are a sheep

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. Who are some of the other shepherds in your life?
2. What does it mean for you to be a sheep?
3. How have you experienced God providing, protecting or promoting?
4. What does it mean for you personally that Jesus is the good shepherd?
5. How has the enemy tried to lead you away from the flock?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Proverbs 1 Tues: Proverbs 2 Wed: Proverbs 3 Thurs: Proverbs 4 Fri: Proverbs 5

Songs from the weekend: [Mountaintops - *The Belonging Co.*] - [New Wine - *Hillsong Worship*] - [Goodness of God - *Bethel Music*] - [Living Hope - *Phil Wickham*]