



JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST
Family Matters

July 17, 2022

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George Clark
Nate Crowden
Greg Dowdy
Charlie Kluesner
Doug Lester
Brian Mitchell
Todd Newman
Kenny Simmons
Scott Spraggs
Trey Walls

Lessons for Today

AM: Brian Mitchell
"I Am the Good Shepherd"
John 10 :11-18

PM: Brian Mitchell
"I Am the Way the Truth and the Life."
John 14: 1-6

I Am the Good Shepherd

In the literal sense a shepherd is one who leads and cares for sheep. However, in the figurative sense a shepherd is one who leads and cares for men. What is interesting is the fact that when we understand what qualities were needed in order for one to be a good shepherd of sheep, we see why the term is used symbolically to represent those who lead men. In Ezekiel chapter 34 we learn that one of the chief reasons that the nation of Israel was taken into captivity was the failure of their shepherds (leaders) to be good shepherds. Thus, God punished them and announced through Ezekiel that He would seek out His sheep and that He would be their shepherd.

Especially important to the article today is v.23 where God vowed to save His people and establish one shepherd over them. It is not until we turn to the NT that we discover who that one shepherd was to be (Jn.10:2-3a, 11). Jesus is the good shepherd and one shepherd that God promised to establish over His people. The question is: why is Jesus the good shepherd? In other words we need to know what qualities made one a good shepherd and then we will truly understand why Jesus is indeed the Good Shepherd.

What qualities made one a good shepherd? 1.) A good shepherd knows His sheep. There were 2 things that allowed Jesus to know those He led. First, was the fact that He was God and thus knew all men (Jn.2:25). Second, was the fact that He was among the people. Thus, as members of the flock God let us know that Jesus, our good shepherd, knows us each by name. **2.)** A good shepherd cares for his sheep. To care for something is to be "concerned for and thus to take charge and look after." The Lord's care for His sheep is perhaps best expressed in the 3 parables of Luke 15, especially the parable of the lost sheep. Because the shepherd in the parable was concerned for all of his sheep he was not prepared to allow any of them to be lost.

3.) A good shepherd protects his sheep. Because a shepherd knew and cared for each of his sheep he would do whatever was necessary to protect each of them. As David did when fighting off the bear and the lion who threatened to ravage his sheep. In the spiritual sense we too have a lion that seeks to tear us way from the flock of God. **4.)** A good shepherd leads his flock. It would be difficult for a shepherd to guide and protect his flock from the back and that is why He was always out front (Jn.10:3b). Jesus is our good shepherd because He has led us in the ways we should go by the example He has left behind (1 Pet.2:21).

5.) A good shepherd is willing to die for his sheep (Jn.10:11-18). The reason that David was willing to face the lion and the bear was that his sheep meant more to him than his own life. Someone who was merely hired to take care of the sheep would not risk his life for theirs, but a true shepherd would. Thus, Jesus is the good shepherd because He was not only willing to die for His sheep, He did so.

Now that we understand what qualities made one a good shepherd, there is no doubt that Jesus is exactly who He claimed to be. **He is THE Good Shepherd.** The question for us is; is He our shepherd? If He is then hear His voice and follow Him. With all that why would anyone not want Jesus to be their shepherd? **Will you let Him lead you today?**

Brain Mitchell

Worship Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:00 am
AM Worship: 10:00 am
PM Worship: 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7:00 pm

For the Record

Sunday Class: 95
Sunday AM: 136
Sunday PM: 77
Wednesday PM: 57
Contribution: \$3567
Budget: \$4464

Think on This...

Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.

Psalm 139:4

Celebrating This Week...

Birthdays

Judy Fulbright: 07.18
Jessica Kee: 07.20
Zach Dowdy: 07.21
Kay Gilliland: 07.23
Justin Singleton: 07.23

Anniversaries

Eric & Amy Craft: 07.17
James & Jodi Johnson: 07.20
Kelly & Trudy Garland: 07.22

Serving This Week

Announcements: Larry Dowdy

SUNDAY

Greeters: Dan & Ruby Silvers

Ushers: Leonard Fulbright/Randy Seabaugh

A/V: Greg Dowdy

Lead Singing: Todd Newman

Head Lord's Table: Ron Fehr

Scripture: Seth Spraggs

Prayers:

AM: Brian Mitchell/Dan Silvers

PM: Christopher Newman/Lance Kluesner

WEDNESDAY

Lead Singing: Phil Swiney

Lesson: Jim Faughn

"The Meek"

Prayer: Doug Lester

Elder Chair: Allen Hedge

Communion to Shut-Ins: Scott Spraggs

Worship Organizer: Scott Spraggs



Remember in Prayer

- **Lucky Vander**, Glen Austin's son-in-law is continuing to struggle with colon cancer and is now in hospice care.
- **Lena Schweain** has Covid and has been ill for several days and **Iverne Glass** was exposed when visiting Lena. Please pray for both sisters to be well soon!
- **Glenn & Maggie Colley**, family of Denna Finch are having some health issues and would appreciate our prayers.

News & Notes

- We are in the process of updating the **directory**. Please contact the office by July 20 with any corrections or additions that need to be made.
- All ladies are invited to gather for a **baby shower** honoring **Kayli Naramore** on **August 14** at 2pm in the fellowship room. Kayli & Cody are expecting a baby girl in September and are registered at Target and Amazon.
- **Thursday School** registration is open for 3-4 year old children and we still have a few openings. See Joy Kaye or call the office if you would like to register a child or if you need information for a friend or neighbor.
- Let's make an effort to increase our donations to the Paragould Children's Homes in the coming weeks. Our next pick-up date is September 12, so there's plenty of time to fill the bins! We're focusing on one requested item to bring in each week. Donated items should be placed in the labeled collection bins in the room across from the ladies' rest room. **This week's item: Paper Napkins.**

Daily Bible Reading

July 17: Proverbs 22-24

July 18: Proverbs 25-27

July 19: Proverbs 28-31

July 20: Ecclesiastes 1-3

July 21: Ecclesiastes 4-6

July 22: Ecclesiastes 7-9

July 23: Ecclesiastes 10-12

Continuing Prayer Needs

****Contact the office with updates****

Marian Allmon

Ginger Avery

Tony Boyd

Mark Blaylock

Thelma Brown

Bill Dillman

Kelly & Trudy Garland

Juanita Hedge

Tim Hosey

Diana Ivanovich

Betty Jones

Sid Naramore

Carolyn Neese

Wanda Raper

Lena Schweain

Susan Seabaugh

Earl Silvers

Steve Simmons

Lee Simpson

Sarah Singleton

Fred Stoffregen

Kay Stroble

Don Tawney

Mike Turnbow

Lucky Vander

Chris Weaver

Youth Corner

- **July 18:** SYS at Green Forest
- **July 25:** SYS at Dexter
- **August 8:** SYS at Shady Acres
- **August 15:** SYS at Bernie

****The elders would like to kindly ask you to NOT enter the auditorium on Sunday mornings until the second bell has rung. The influx of people prior to the second bell is disruptive to the teacher and class members. We also ask everyone to take advantage of the interval between Sunday school and worship to use the restroom, get a drink of water and take care of these needs for your children as well. We realize families with young children may need to be taken out during our worship period due to necessity. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!**

Your Shepherds

