

GBC Discipleship RESOURCE



FOLLOWING JESUS IN JOHN'S GOSPEL

Week Three | The Good Shepherd

For a brief overview of why (and how) to engage in each of these practices, you can read the [Guideline For Growing](https://www.gymeabaptist.org.au/growing/pages/guideline-for-growing) on our website.

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OVERVIEW

In John 10:1-21 Jesus describes himself as the good shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep. Jesus' use of this image follows his healing of a man born blind who, after acknowledging that Jesus has been sent by God is kicked out of the synagogue by the religious leaders. These shepherds stand in stark contrast to the good shepherd, but it is the (formerly) blind man whose example seems to be in the background; one who heard the voice of Jesus (for he couldn't see him) and followed him to the point of belief.

1. PASSAGES TO MEDITATE ON

These passages all focus on the shepherd motif. As you read them, reflect on how Jesus fulfils or challenges these images

- Psalm 23

- Psalm 78:70-72
- Ezekiel 34:1-16
- Luke 15:1-7
- 1 Peter 5:1-4

2. JOURNALING QUESTIONS

Our experience of hearing Jesus' voice is unlike any other voice since it is inaudible; a voice to the heart in the Spirit.

- If you have "heard" Jesus' voice, how would you describe it?
- How have you recognised his voice in the past?
- How would you explain this to someone who wanted to know if they were hearing from the Lord?

3. PRAYER THEME

Recognising the Voice of Jesus

- "His sheep follow him because they know his voice." If this is the central activity of discipleship, it is imperative that we learn to recognise the voice of Jesus. This is done in community, but is also a private discipline. If you are not in the habit of doing so, set aside some time to listen to what Jesus might speak to you.

4. A TEXT TO INTERNALISE

- John 10:4-5