

GO TELL

LIFE GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Sermon Date: Sunday, May 10, 2026

Sermon Passage(s): John 10:1-18

Pastor Justin Lett

This Week's Main Takeaway

The power of evangelism has never been in our ability to persuade. It has always been in the Shepherd's voice.

This Week's Memory Verse

John 10:16 (NIV), "I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd."

Five Inductive Questions

Key Understandings (CSB Study Bible Notes):

- The sheep pen: May have been a courtyard near a house surrounded by a stone wall where several families kept their sheep.
- The gate: Guarded by a hired gatekeeper.
- Thief: May focus on the covert nature of entrance to the pen.
- Robber: May indicate violence.
- The shepherd: Authorized caretaker of the flock.

1. GOD :: What does this passage imply about God?

Jesus is the good shepherd who cares for His people (*CCE, Exalting Jesus in John*).

We can trust that when Jesus speaks, even through you, His sheep will hear (v. 4). God pictures His care of His people through the image of a shepherd and his sheep (Psalm 23:1-4). The shepherd was the authorized caretaker of the flock (*CSB Study Bible Notes*). In this, God wants His people to understand His grace, mercy, and love (*CCE, Exalting Jesus in John*).

Additionally, Jesus describes Himself as "the gate for the sheep" (vs. 7-9). The gate keeps out those who intend to harm the sheep. Jesus promises to guard and protect His sheep from those who desire to hurt them (*CCE, Exalting Jesus in John*). The phrase "find pasture" (v. 9) depicts the assurance of God's provision (*CSB Study Bible Notes*).

2. MAN :: What does this passage imply about *man*?

If you have believed on Jesus, you are His sheep and will never be forgotten (*CCE, Exalting Jesus in John*).

One commentator (*CCE, Exalting Jesus in John*) puts it this way:

“Sheep don’t *become* his sheep because they follow Him. They follow Him because they *are* His sheep. The Shepherd, not the sheep, takes the initiative. Just as the prophets foretold, God sent a shepherd to draw God’s sheep back to God. Jesus came and His sheep responded. Their response is simple: they hear, and they follow.” (vs. 3-5)

3. PROMISE :: Is there a *promise* to claim in this passage?

In one act, we see most clearly the shepherd’s care for the sheep. When the sheep are in imminent danger, the shepherd gives His life to save them (*CCE, Exalting Jesus in John*).

Verse 11 gives us the gospel in a sentence—He lays down His life for His sheep, and He does it on His own accord (v. 18). What a deep love for His sheep. One commentator puts it this way: “Jesus is the hero of the story. When He sees the wolf coming, He doesn’t run away. He steps in front of the sheep. He will not allow anything to hurt or harm His sheep. No price is too great to pay for His sheep (*CCE, Exalting Jesus in John*).

4. COMMAND :: Is there a *command* to obey in this passage?

The power of evangelism has never been in our ability to persuade. It has always been in the Shepherd’s voice. He knows, loves, and keeps us. Therefore, we must strive to do the following:

- Stay close to the Shepherd, so you know His voice.
- Be willing to lay something down so others can be lifted up.
- Love people like they are known, not numbered.

5. REPENT :: Reflecting on this portion of God’s Word, what can I *repent* of this week?

If Jesus is the Good Shepherd, then what you need to do is simple: *follow Jesus*. Don’t look elsewhere. Don’t wander away. Recognize that in Him we have everything we would ever need (*CCE, Exalting Jesus in John*).

Consider this week if you are following Jesus (Do you recognize His voice?) Why are you following Him? What have you been saved from and saved to as a believer?

Sources:

Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary: Exalting Jesus in John (Holman Publishers)

CSB Study Bible Notes (B&H Publishing)

Next Week's Sermon Text (May 17, 2026) (Grad Sunday)

John 20

"Evangelism is our mission."