Encounter these verses today:

circle words that you identify with, underline phrases or sentences you'd like to remember, write questions about the passage out to the side ...



John 10:1-18 (NLT) | The Good Shepherd

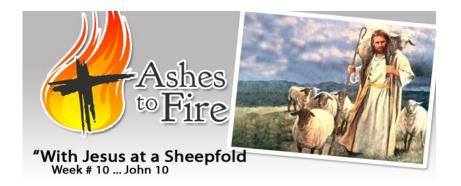
"I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber! ²But the one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They won't follow a stranger; they will run from him because they don't know his voice."

⁶ Those who heard Jesus use this illustration didn't understand what he meant, ⁷ so he explained it to them: "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me^[a] were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. ^[b] They will come and go freely and will find good pastures. ¹⁰ The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep. ¹² A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will abandon the sheep because they don't belong to him and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because he's working only for the money and doesn't really care about the sheep.

14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, 15 just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They will listen to my voice, and there will be one flock with one shepherd.

¹⁷ "The Father loves me because I sacrifice my life so I may take it back again. ¹⁸ No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded."



Understanding 1st Century Shepherding...

What value is there is coming into the pen?

What value is there in leaving the pen?





Digging Deeper

[Engage the message throughout the week]

Monday: 5.16.2011 Passage: Psalm 41; Genesis 32:1-20; Colossians 1:1-14 Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 6:1-11 Quote: O God, you are the giver of all good gifts and I desire to praise your name for all of your goodness to me. I thank you for sending your Son to die for my sins, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory, through Jesus Christ. Amen. Reflections:
Tuesday: 5.17.2011 [FUDDRUCKERS FUNDRAISER] Passage: Psalm 45; Genesis 32:21-34; Colossians 1:15-23 Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 6:12-26 Prayer: Lord of all life and power, through the mighty resurrection of Jesus, you have overcome sin and death to make all things new in him. This is the day you have made; I will rejoice and be glad in it. Amen. Reflections:
Wednesday: 5.18.2011 Passage: Psalm 119:49-72; Exodus 33:1-23; Colossians 1:24-2:7 Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 6:27-38 Quote: Lord God, send your Holy Spirit to be the guide of all my soul and body. Give me the light of your presence, your peace from heaven, and the salvation of my soul, through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen. Reflections:
Thursday: 5.19.2011 Passage: Psalm 50; Exodus 34:1-17; Colossians 2:8-23 Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 6:39-49 Quote: To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, my Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, I give up myself entirely; may I no longer serve myself, but you only, all the days of my life, through Christ my Lord, I pray. Amen.

Reflections:

Friday: 5.20.2011

Passage: Psalm 40; Exodus 34:18-35; Colossians 3:1-11

Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 7:1-17

Prayer: Father, accept my imperfect repentance, show compassion for my infirmities, forgive my faults, purify my motives, strengthen my weakness, and let your good Spirit watch over me, and your love ever rule my heart, through the mercies

of Jesus, I pray. Amen.

Reflections:

Saturday: 5.21.2011

Passage: Psalm 55; Exodus 40:18-38; Colossians 2:12-4:18

Today's Gospel Reading: Luke 7:18-28, 31-35

Prayer: Now to God the Father who first loved us and made us accepted in the Beloved; to God the Son who loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood; to God the Holy Spirit who sheds the love of God abroad in our hearts, be all love and all glory for time and for eternity. Amen.

Reflections:

Join us for Thursday Prayer Between 5:30-8:00 am

The church is open during this time for moments of prayer.
This is private prayer in a public place! Prayer guides are available that help you pray for the families of our church, our leadership, staff and other requests as they are made known.

It's a great way to start the day!

