

## Fearless: The Lord Is My Shepherd

"Fearless" series- Part 01

Use the next few minutes to connect and fellowship with other members of the group by discussing the following: Describe a time when you lacked a certain knowledge or training and had to be guided step-by-step by someone else to accomplish a task?

**Let's get on the same page –**

Psalms 23:1 begins with: *"A Psalm of David. The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want."* (KJV) What a great truth and hope for every believer. The NLT translation says, *"I have everything I need"*. In the first message of the "Fearless" series, we learned that the "scarcity mentality" is something we need to resist, and instead, rest in the provision of God. In our small group study today, our emphasis is on why we need not entertain this fear. This assurance is ours when we believe that **"The Lord is my Shepherd"!**

In what ways have you served as a "shepherd" to someone? What qualified you to serve in this role?

**Book: John 10:6-16**

John 10:6 Those who heard Jesus use this illustration didn't understand what He meant,

John 10:7 so He explained it to them: "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep.

John 10:8 All who came before Me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them.

John 10:9 Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through Me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures.

John 10:10 The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.

John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices His life for the sheep.

John 10:12 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.

John 10:13 The hired hand runs away because he's working only for the money and doesn't really care about the sheep.

John 10:14 "I am the good shepherd; I know My own sheep, and they know Me,

John 10:15 just as My Father knows Me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice My life for the sheep.

John 10:16 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.

**Let's get into the Word:**

Do you find any reason in the above verses why someone would believe that they will not have enough, cannot be content, or their success is dependent solely on their own efforts? Which verse and explain.

Who do you suppose are the "thieves and robbers" that Christ speaks of? Why is their activity described as stealing and robbing?

Look carefully at verse 10:9. Jesus makes 3 promises as the "gate" for people and each one is listed below. Give an example of what He is promising. What scriptures come to mind for your example:

1. Will be saved-
2. Come and go freely-

### 3. Find good pasture-

Jesus states that He is a good Shepherd. How would you qualify a good shepherd using only the verses found in our text today? Make a list:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

How do each of these descriptive qualities fulfil our needs and wants in the area of spiritual contentment?

In John 10:14, Jesus states that we can know Him. How would you convince someone that you can know that Jesus is your good provider?

The words of Christ in John 10:16 make a wonderful promise. What is it? How does it make you feel?

### **Let's get real (with self!)**

In what area of your life do you feel a "want" or discontentment?

Can the Good Shepherd fill this need or provide contentment? How might Jesus go about doing that for you?

Share with your group today, how they can pray for you about this need or want.