

Sunday, June 25, 2023

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching."

Title: The Good Shepherd

Series: BBQ at Wolf Creek Circle Square Ranch

Text: John 10:1 - 42

I want to INFORM my CONGREGATION of some the characteristics of Christ Jesus who is our Good Shepherd!

Introduction:

~ Welcome to Wolf Creek Circle Square Ranch; a special "Thank You" to all the staff for their willingness to host us today.

~ Here we are out in the country side. Pasture land and horses! Fences and corrals. Riding gear and feed.

~ It seemed fitting in this setting to have a devotional based on John 10; which is the Biblical account of the Good Shepherd.

1. Jesus Declared, "I am the door":

~ vs. 1 – 10; consider vs. 7 in particular, "*So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep."*

~ In ancient Israel a sheepfold was often a stone wall enclosure with put one door. The shepherd usually slept at that opening or door.

~ vs. 1, "*Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in another way, that man is a thief and a robber."*

~ It was not uncommon for two or more shepherds to bed their flocks in one sheepfold; this explains vs. 3 & 4, "*To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. (4) When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice."*

~ vs. 9 & 10, "*I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. (10) The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."*

~ Application is revealed in vs. 16, "*And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd."*

2. Jesus Declared, "I am the good shepherd":

~ vs. 11 – 21; consider vs. 11 in particular, "*I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."*

~ Notice the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. See verses 11, 15, 17 & 18 [twice]

~ Matthew 20:28, "*even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

~ vs. 14, "*I am the good shepherd, I know my own and my own know me."*

3. Jesus Declared, "I am the Son of God":

~ John 22 – 42; consider vs. 30 and 36 in particular, "*I and the Father are one.*"(36) "*do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God?'"*

~ vs. 24 – 26, "*So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."* (25) *Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, (26) but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep."*

~ vs. 42, "*And many believed in him there."*

Conclusion:

Psalm 23 - ESV

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



VBS 2023

July 17 to 21

9:00 am to 12:00 noon