

## **How To Have the Best Life Possible (John 10)**

**Pastor Deric**

*(1) "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. (2) But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. (3) 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. (5) A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." (6) This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.*

*(7) So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. (8) All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. (9) 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. (11) I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. (12) He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. (13) He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. (14) I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, (15) just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. (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. (17) For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. (18) No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father." (19) There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. (20) Many of them said, "He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?" (21) Others said, "These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"*

*(22) At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter; (23) and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. (24) 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. (27) My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. (28) I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. (29) My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. (30) I and the Father are one."*

*(31) The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. (32) Jesus answered them, "I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?" (33) The Jews answered him, "It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, make yourself God." (34) Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I said, you are gods'? (35) If he called them gods to whom the word of God came-- and Scripture cannot be broken-- (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'? (37) If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me; (38) but if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father." (39) Again they sought to arrest him, but he escaped from their hands. (40) He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing at first, and there he remained. (41) And many came to him. And they said, "John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true." (42) And many believed in him there. [John 10:1-42 ESV]*

## **Practical Application**

1. Jesus always tells the truth. You can trust Him to lead you more than you trust yourself or anyone else.
2. There are people and an evil enemy who want to take from you, but Jesus wants to give to you all you need.
3. Like sheep, we can stray, wander, be led away from the flock, make poor choices, and be killed by wolves.
4. Jesus is the good and perfect loving leader (shepherd).
5. Jesus is speaking to His people (sheep) today, and He knows each of them by name. His sheep follow Him because they know His voice. The sheep of Jesus will not listen to a stranger.
6. Jesus is the only way for us to have full access to God and the fullness of His blessing both now and forever.
7. All spiritual and religious leaders outside of Jesus and true Christianity will lead you astray in some way.
8. Jesus leads His people (sheep) into beautiful, lush, and abundant pastures. He gives them peace.
9. Satan and all people who follow him will seek to steal, kill, and destroy you.
10. Jesus came from heaven to earth to give you abundant life, life to the fullest, the best life possible now and forever.
11. Jesus loves His people so much He died for them so that they might truly live.
12. Jesus defeated the wolf (wolves) that want to kill you.
13. Beware of wolves and do not be naive and gullible.
14. Jesus knows His sheep and His sheep know Him.
15. Jesus has sheep all over the world. He is a global shepherd with a one global flock.
16. Jesus wants us to join Him on His global mission to reach the world for His glory.
17. Jesus's life was not taken from Him. He willingly laid it down and powerfully took it up again.
18. People will be divided in the way they respond to Jesus, but His flock should be united around Him.
19. Jesus brings light to our path, warmth to our hearts, and truth to our minds.
20. The sheep of Jesus trust Him.
21. Jesus gives eternal life and no-one can take His sheep out of His caring hands.
22. God the Father has given you to God the Son as a gift. God is greater and more powerful than anyone or anything. Nothing can take you out of the Heavenly Father's strong hand.
23. Jesus was clearly 100% God and 100% human.
24. Trust in Jesus today.
25. You are here on earth for God, to do His will, and accomplish His purpose. He loves you and will protect you until He decides to bring you home to be with Him forever. He will give you the best life possible now and into eternity as you follow Him, trust Him, and love Him. You can have abundant life today in Jesus Christ.

## **Announcements**

1. Mission Trip Fundraiser! There will be a fundraiser event for Caleb Burke and his mission trip to India. Today from 12:00 - 2:30. Come and support one of our own young men who has begun the process of fulfilling his desire to become a full-time missionary.
2. HOPE BLAST! Join us for a night of fun, food, games, fellowship, and worship! The Hope Blast will be March 18th (Saturday), 4pm-6pm. Invite friends and family! We are also looking for volunteers to help with the event. If you have questions, please contact Diane Davis.
3. Join us for a Family Baby Shower for Davia O'Neal and Kortlin Zeigler Sunday 3/19/23 right after service. Come and celebrate the upcoming additions to the HMC family with a pot-luck style lunch and baby shower!
4. The Men's Ministry Group will meet again on March 26 after church service. Join the men from HMC to fellowship and worship the Lord! If you or someone you know is interested in joining this group of God loving men, contact Brad Vick.
5. EASTER: Sunday, April 2nd (9am), we will be having an Easter Egg Hunt for all the kids at Hope Mountain please bring your basket and be ready for some fun. There will be snacks, a picture booth, and more. Please invite your friends and family. If you could bring eggs or candy to donate that would be amazing! There will be a bin in the lobby. Please email Tiffany Vick at [bwvick@yahoo.com](mailto:bwvick@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.
6. Did you miss Pastor Deric's sermon last Sunday? The sermons are available in video and audio format along with the outline in PDF. <https://hopemountain.church/resources/sermons/>