

The Good Shepherd

Open with Prayer Requests

Read John 10:11–18

- Jesus calls Himself the “good shepherd.” What does this image communicate about His relationship with His people?
- What does it mean that the good shepherd “lays down his life for the sheep”?
- Jesus says He has the authority to lay down His life and take it up again. Why is this significant?
- Who are the “other sheep” Jesus refers to, and why does this matter?
- How does this passage shape your understanding of Jesus’ death—was it taken from Him or willingly given?

Read John 11:1–44

- Why do you think Jesus delayed going to Lazarus when He first heard he was sick?
- What does the raising of Lazarus reveal about Jesus’ power and identity?
- How did this miracle impact the people who witnessed it?
- Why did this event intensify opposition from the religious leaders?
- How does this miracle prepare us to understand Jesus’ own resurrection?

Read Luke 23:32–49

- As Jesus is crucified, what stands out to you about His words and actions?
- Why is it significant that Jesus quoted from Psalm 22 on the cross?
- What does this moment reveal about Jesus fulfilling prophecy?
- The last word Jesus speaks on the cross is “Tetelestai,” which means “the debt is paid in full.” Why is that important for us to understand?
- What does the crucifixion reveal about the seriousness of sin and the depth of God’s love?

Read John 20:1–18

- What were the initial reactions of the disciples to the empty tomb?
- Why do you think it was difficult for them to understand what had happened?
- How does the resurrection confirm everything Jesus said about Himself?
- The death of Jesus was not an execution, but a self-sacrifice. How does that change the way you view the cross?

Read John 3:16–17

- What do these verses teach us about God’s motivation for sending Jesus?
- According to this passage, what is required for someone to receive eternal life?
- What does it mean to “believe in” Jesus in a personal and practical sense?
- What does it look like in daily life to stop trusting in yourself and start trusting in Jesus?
- How can our group encourage one another to live as people who belong to the Good Shepherd?

Closing Prayer