



## Sermon Discussion Guide

06.19.22 Message | Tyler Myers | Jeremiah 23:1-8

### Key Scriptures:

*Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.*

- Psalm 51:6

*“Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” declares the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: “You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the Lord. Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the Lord.*

*“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. 6 In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’*

*“Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when they shall no longer say, ‘As the Lord lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,’ but ‘As the Lord lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.’ Then they shall dwell in their own land.”*

- Jeremiah 23:1-8

*But if you will not listen, my soul will weep in secret for your pride, my eyes will weep bitterly and run down with tears, because the Lord's flock has been taken captive.*

- Jeremiah 13:17

*I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.*

- John 10:14-15

**Message Highlights:**

- “If your output exceeds your input then your upkeep will be your downfall” -John Pokluda
- We were designed to weep with others in order to share their burdens and aches; weeping is a necessary response because of division.
- The wise puts God’s words into action and the fool does not put God’s words into action.

**Conversation Starter:**

How would you say the community of believers surrounding you has blessed your life in this current season? Has it been difficult to press into this community? If so, talk with your group about ways you are hoping to get connected.

**Discuss the Message:**

1. Read Jeremiah 23:1-8 and discuss your understanding of the role of a shepherd.
  - a) What or who would you equate a shepherd to in general terms?
  - b) How does the special “woe” placed on the shepherds in Jeremiah 23:1-2 magnify the importance of their role?
  - c) Has God called you to play a shepherding role over a person or group of people’s lives? If not, how might God be equipping you for such a role?
2. How does John 10:14-15 demonstrate that Jesus is our good shepherd?
  - a) In what ways does the Bible illustrate that Jesus is in relationship with God the father?
  - b) How does Jesus’ relationship with God enable him to be a good shepherd and leader to us?
  - c) How can we use Jesus’ methods to seek God?
3. In what way does Jeremiah 13:17 demonstrate that we are designed to weep with others?
  - a) How does this verse demonstrate the importance of Christian community for the believer?
  - b) Brainstorm some of the ways you can practice the discipline of lament both individually and communally.

**Pray:**

*Lord God, thank you for modeling perfectly what it means to know and love in tandem. In our sinful nature, we confess that it sometimes seems more appealing to hide from you than to come before you with our whole selves. Remind us to pray for the shepherds you have placed among us and to ultimately submit to you, our good shepherd. Your design for Christian community is beautiful and we want to be a part of it. We pray all of these things in your son’s name, Amen.*