

John 10 – I am the Good Shepherd

1. "I tell you the solemn truth, the one who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs in some other way, is **a thief and a robber**. A
2. But the one entering by the door is the **shepherd of the sheep**. ³To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep **listen to his voice**.
His own sheep he calls by name
and leads them out. B
4. When he has brought out all of his own,
he goes ahead of them,
and the sheep follow him because they **recognize his voice**. C
5. **But a stranger** they will never follow, but will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of **strangers**."

6. **Jesus told them this parable, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.**

7. So Jesus said again, "I tell you the solemn truth, **I am the door for the sheep**. A
8. All who came before me were **thieves and robbers**, but the sheep did not listen to them.
9. **I am the door**. If anyone enters through me, he will be saved, and will come in and go out, and find pasture.
10. **The thief** comes only to steal and kill and destroy;
I have come so that they may have life, and may have it abundantly.

11. "**I am the good shepherd**. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
12. The **hired hand**, who is not a shepherd and does not own sheep,
sees **the wolf** coming and abandons the sheep and flees,
and the wolf attacks the sheep and scatters. B
13. Because he is a **hired hand** and does not care about the sheep.
14. "**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. D

16. I have other sheep that do not come from this sheepfold. I must bring them too, and they will **listen to my voice**, so that there will be one flock and one shepherd. C

17. This is why the **Father** loves me
because **I lay down my life**, so that I may **take it back again**. D
18. No one takes it away from me, but **I lay it down** of my own free will.
I have the authority to **lay it down**, and I have the authority to **take it back again**.
This commandment I received from my **Father**."

19. **Another sharp division took place among the Jewish people because of these words.** ²⁰Many of them were saying, "He is possessed by a demon and has lost his mind! Why do you listen to him?" ²¹Others said, "These are not the words of someone possessed by a demon. A demon cannot cause the blind to see, can it?"

At the Feast of Dedication

22. Then came the feast of the Dedication in Jerusalem. ²³It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple area in Solomon's Portico. ²⁴The Jewish leaders surrounded him and asked, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, **tell us plainly.**"
25. Jesus replied, "**I told you** and you do not believe.
- The deeds I do in my Father's** name testify about me.
26. But you refuse to believe because you are not **my sheep.**
27. **My sheep listen to my voice,** and I know them, and they follow me.
28. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish; no one will snatch them from my hand.
29. My **Father**, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can snatch them from my Father's hand.
30. I and the **Father** are one."
31. **The Jewish leaders picked up rocks again to stone him to death.**
32. Jesus said to them, "I have shown you **many good deeds from the Father.** For which one of them are you going to stone me?"
33. The Jewish leaders replied, "We are not going to stone you for a **good deed** but for **blasphemy**, because you, a man, are claiming to be God."
34. Jesus answered, "Is it not written in your law, 'I said, you are gods'? ³⁵If those people to whom the word of God came were called 'gods' (and the Scripture cannot be broken), ³⁶do you say about the one whom the **Father** set apart and sent into the world, 'You are **blaspheming,**' because I said, 'I am the Son of God'?"
37. If I do not perform **the deeds of my Father**, do not believe me.
38. But if I do them, even if you do not believe me, believe **the deeds**,
so that you may come to know and understand that
I am in the **Father** and the **Father** is in me."
39. **Then they attempted again to seize him, but he escaped their clutches.**
40. Jesus went back across the Jordan River again to the place where John had been baptizing at an earlier time, and he stayed there. ⁴¹Many came to him and began to say, "John performed no miraculous sign, but everything John said about this man was true!" ⁴²And many believed in Jesus there.