

Small Group Discussion Guide

“At the Movies” (pt. 3) – 9/28/2014

Scripture: John 10:11-21

Bottom Line: Jesus is your Shepherd.

INTRODUCTION: What's a good movie of a hero protecting people from evil? My mind goes to Braveheart, King Leonidas (300), The Dark Knight, James Bond, and Harry Stamper (How many people in your group know who Harry Stamper is?). What about you? In Sunday's sermon, we see that Jesus, as the Good Shepherd, willingly sacrificed his life to protect and provide for his people.

UNPACKING THE GOSPEL:

Pastor Adam says that the shepherd's staff has 3 important purposes. Can you name them? Care, Defense, and Rescue.

The point is...God is our caring, defending, and rescuing God. How does this help you?

What makes Jesus the Good Shepherd?

- He is perfectly self-sacrificing. Remember: I AM in vs. 11 & 14 is a claim to be God.

Why does Jesus lay down his life? (Don't just list, but explore & discuss the reasons below)

- Because of our great need. We were spiritually dead in our sins. (Eph. 2:1)
- Because you are his. (2 Cor. 5:15)
- Because of his unfailing, global mission (2 Cor. 5:19-21)

Where in your life are you bargaining with God based on your character?

- If we are not careful, sometimes we may begin to think that our good works give us a platform on which to stand before God. It seems silly to say out loud, but how many times have you found yourself thinking that God owes you or has to treat you a certain way because of your behavior. We are not accepted before God based on our ability to perform but based on Christ's performance on our behalf.

When do you doubt that you are his?

How can we know that Jesus is who he says he is and will do all that he says he will do?

- Think about Jesus' self-giving character as revealed in verses 17-18.

Because you can fully trust Jesus to shepherd you, how will this change how you live?