SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN · LEADER'S SHEET · THURSDAY JAN 21

John **10** · week 10 of 21

The Door and the Good Shepherd · Answers and notes for Thursday

READ MONDAY – WEDNESDAY · MEET THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 21

Answers to every worksheet question, with the exact NASB key-word counts. Personal questions are marked "Personal."

THE WEEK

Monday	Read John 10 straight through, then again with a pen and mark it · Mon, Jan 18
Tuesday	Read the study notes; answer the Observe questions and count the key words · Tue, Jan 19
Wednesday	Interpret, Weigh the Teachers, the Word study and Apply · Wed, Jan 20
Thursday evening	Together: watch the John 10 part of the film, go through the worksheet, pray · Thu, Jan 21

KEY VERSE

> **JOHN 10:11 · NASB**
>
> *"I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep."*

Jesus is still speaking to the men who threw the healed beggar out. He paints a picture of a shepherd, a door, thieves and a wolf, and later at the Feast of Dedication makes a claim that brings out the stones again.

John 10 *The Door and the Good Shepherd*

KEY VERSE 10:11

Theme of the chapter. Jesus is the only door to God's fold and the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep of His own will and takes it up again. His sheep hear His voice and follow Him, and no one can snatch them from His hand or the Father's, because He and the Father are one.

KEY WORD COUNTS (NASB)

sheep	**15**	vv. 1, 2, 3 (×2), 4, 7, 8, 11, 12 (×2), 13, 15, 16, 26, 27
shepherd	**6**	vv. 2, 11 (×2), 12, 14, 16
door	**4**	vv. 1, 2, 7, 9
voice	**5**	vv. 3, 4, 5, 16, 27
life	**5**	vv. 10, 11, 15, 17, 28
Father	**13**	vv. 15 (×2), 17, 18, 25, 29 (×2), 30, 32, 36, 37, 38 (×2)

JOHN 10:1–6 The Figure

1 OBSERVE *How does the shepherd enter, and how does the thief enter (10:1–2)? What does the shepherd do with his sheep (10:3–4)?*

> The shepherd enters by the door; the thief climbs up "some other way" (10:1). The shepherd "calls his own sheep by name and leads them out," goes ahead of them, and they follow "because they know his voice" (10:3–4).

2 INTERPRET *Jesus is still talking to the Pharisees from 9:40–41. Read Ezekiel 34:1–10. Who are the thieves and robbers?*

> The leaders of Israel who had just thrown out the man born blind. Sproul: "those whom God had called to be the shepherds over His flock, the clergy of His day." Ezekiel 34 is God against shepherds who fed themselves.

JOHN 10:7–10 I Am the Door

3 OBSERVE *What does Jesus promise the one who enters through Him (10:9)? Contrast what the thief comes to do with what Jesus came to do (10:10).*

> "He will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture" (10:9). The thief comes "only to steal and kill and destroy"; Jesus came "that they may have life, and have it abundantly" (10:10).

4 INTERPRET *Guzik explains that a shepherd lay across the opening of the fold at night: "The shepherd was in fact the door." What does it mean that there is only one door (see Acts 4:12)?*

> There is one way in, through Jesus. Spurgeon shuts the false doors: baptism without faith, church membership, family heritage.

5 APPLY *Guzik: "Abundant life isn't an especially long life." What is abundant life, and can a man have it in a cell, a hospital or a hard marriage?*

> Guzik: "a life of satisfaction and contentment in Jesus." Yes, because abundant life is Him, not circumstances.

JOHN 10:11–18 I Am the Good Shepherd

6 OBSERVE *What does the good shepherd do, and what does the hired hand do when the wolf comes (10:11–13)?*

> The good shepherd "lays down His life for the sheep" (10:11). The hired hand "sees the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep and flees" because he "is not concerned about the sheep" (10:12–13).

7 OBSERVE *What does Jesus say about His own death in 10:17–18?*

> "I lay down My life so that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again" (10:17–18).

8 WEIGH THE TEACHERS *Sproul: the death of Christ "was voluntary." Guzik: "Anyone can lay down his life; only Jesus could take His life up again." Henry calls it "such a challenge as was never given by the most daring hero." What does a voluntary cross tell you about Jesus?*

> The cross was not an accident or a defeat; it was a Shepherd's choice made in love and in obedience to His Father.

9 INTERPRET *Who are the "other sheep, which are not of this fold" (10:16)?*

> Gentile believers. Spurgeon notices the tense: "I have," not "shall have." One flock under one Shepherd, with believing Israel, and God still has a future for the nation (Rom 11).

10 APPLY *Where in your home, work or ministry have you acted like a hired hand, there for what you get and gone when the wolf comes?*

> Personal. The study's confession: "acting like a hired hand."

JOHN 10:19–21 Division

11 OBSERVE *What two opinions divided the Jews (10:20–21)?*

> "He has a demon and is insane." Others: "These are not the sayings of one demon-possessed. A demon cannot open the eyes of the blind, can he?" (10:21).

JOHN 10:22–30 The Feast of Dedication

12 OBSERVE *When and where is this, and what do the Jews demand (10:22–24)?*

> The Feast of the Dedication, in winter, in Solomon's portico. "If You are the Christ, tell us plainly" (10:24).

13 OBSERVE *List what Jesus' sheep do and what He does for them (10:27–28).*

> They hear His voice and follow Him. He knows them, gives them eternal life, they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of His hand (10:27–28).

14 WEIGH THE TEACHERS *Sproul: "We are secure, not in ourselves, but because of the One in whose hands we are held." Spurgeon: "A double-handed force keeps them safe against all ill." Many Arminian Christians agree no outside power can snatch a sheep but hold a sheep may stop following. What does 10:27 say about who the secure sheep are?*

> The ones who hear His voice and follow. Spurgeon insists security breeds holiness, not carelessness.

15 INTERPRET *Jesus says, "I and the Father are one" (10:30). The Greek hen is neuter: one thing, not one person. What does that rule out on both sides?*

> It rules out making Father and Son the same person, and it rules out a mere unity of purpose. Guzik: distinct Persons, one essence. The stones in 10:31 show what the hearers understood.

JOHN 10:31–39 Stones

16 OBSERVE *Why did the Jews pick up stones (10:33)?*

> "For blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself out to be God" (10:33).

17 INTERPRET *Jesus quotes Psalm 82:6, "you are gods" (10:34). Does that teach that men are divine?*

> No. The judges of Psalm 82 were called "gods" because of their office. Sproul: "one of those lesser-to-greater arguments." If mere judges could be called that, how is it blasphemy for the One the Father sanctified and sent to say, "I am the Son of God"? It rests on one word, because "the Scripture cannot be broken" (10:35).

JOHN 10:40–42 Beyond the Jordan

18 OBSERVE *What did people say beyond the Jordan, and what was the result (10:41–42)?*

> "While John performed no sign, yet everything John said about this man was true." "Many believed in Him there" (10:42).

19 APPLY *John did no miracles, but everything he said about Jesus was true. What would it take for that to be said of you?*

> Personal.

WORD STUDY

20 WORD *harpazō (G726), to seize by force, to snatch. The wolf "snatches" the sheep (10:12). Jesus says twice no one will snatch them from His hand or the Father's (10:28–29). What comfort does that give a man who feels weak?*

> The wolf's own verb is denied twice. Our safety rests on the hands that hold us, not on our grip.

21 WORD *kalos (G2570), good, noble, beautiful. Jesus is not just a competent shepherd but the kalos shepherd (10:11). What makes Him good in this chapter?*

> He knows His sheep by name, lays down His life for them, and keeps them.

ACTS 17:11

The Chosen check

> ACTS 17:11 · NASB
> *"...examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so."*

WATCH THIS WEEK

Season 4, Episode 6, "Dedication" (10:1–42)

Answers and notes for the Chosen check. Let the group find the differences in the text before you give them.

C1 OBSERVE

Read 10:19–22. How much time passes between the Good Shepherd teaching and the Feast of Dedication? How does the show stage them?

> John separates them: 10:22 begins a later feast, "and it was winter." The show stages both in one festival setting.

C2 OBSERVE

The episode has Matthew confronting Judas about money. What does Scripture actually say about Judas and the money box, and where?

> John 12:6 says he was a thief who kept the money box. The confrontation in this episode is the show's own storyline.

C3 INTERPRET

What did the episode add that John 10 does not say? Does the addition help you see the text, or does it change what the text means?

> Additions are not automatically wrong; they are not Scripture. The test is whether an addition changes what the text says about Jesus.

C4 APPLY

The Bereans received the word eagerly and examined the Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11). Where are you most tempted to let a picture, a sermon or a feeling stand in for the text?

> Personal. Press for one concrete habit: reading the chapter before watching, and checking every scene against it.

The Chosen is a drama, not Scripture. God's Word is the truth; where the film differs, the Word wins.