

Sermon Notes

Digging Deeper

1. Read Ezekiel 34:1-24. How are false shepherds described in Ezekiel? How does this compare to the “thief” or “robber” in John 10:10?

What promise does God make about shepherding his people in Ezekiel 34? How might Jesus be the fulfillment of them?

Now read Psalm 23. What qualities of a shepherd are highlighted in this psalm? How do these qualities appear in Jesus’ description of himself?

2. John 10:3-5 says the sheep will recognize and follow the shepherd’s voice. Read 1 Samuel 3:1-18. How does Samuel learn to recognize God’s voice? What parallels do you see with the sheep learning the shepherd’s voice? How have you learned to hear/recognize/listen to God’s voice in your life?

Read Hebrews 3:7-12. What warning is given about not listening to God’s voice? How does this sharpen the meaning of “listening” in John 10?

Taking It Home

- 3.** Pastor Sarah talked about Jesus being the gateway by which we enter the pastures of the Shepherd. Read Psalm 118:14-24. Who is allowed to enter through the gates of righteousness? How does this relate to Jesus' claim in John 10?

- 4.** In John 10:10 Jesus speaks of abundant life. Compare with Deuteronomy 30:15-20. How is "life" defined in Deuteronomy? What does choosing life involve?

Read Psalm 16:11. What does fullness of joy and life in God's presence look like? How might this relate to abundant life?

Read John 17:3-5. How does Jesus define eternal life? How does this deepen your understanding of abundance?