

JESUS IS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

PLEASE do not read these comments until you have prayed and read the Bible for this lesson to learn what the Holy Spirit wants you to teach your students. Then let Him guide you in using these notes. When you follow this procedure you will be a better teacher of your students.

Lesson Aim: Receive Jesus Christ as your good Shepherd and always trust Him to take care of you.

Suggestion: The teacher lesson will call attention to some important truths to teach. After the lesson, give your class next week's Student Lesson so they can share their answers in class next week.

Introduction: Jesus proved He is the Good Shepherd when He opened the eyes of a man that was born blind. The Pharisees hated Jesus for healing this man on the Sabbath, but this man defended Jesus. This infuriated the Pharisees and they cast him out of the synagogue. Jesus found the man and drew him into His flock. Then Jesus gave the Pharisees the parable about the Good Shepherd. Jesus said, "I am the good Shepherd: the good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep" (Jn 10:11).

What salvation principles can we learn from the healing the blind man by Jesus? 9:1-41

1. He was blind from birth (9:1). We are spiritually blind from birth by sin (Rom 3:23; Ps 51:5).
2. Jesus foreknew the man would respond positively to His command so the works of God would be seen in him (9:3). God knew all who would respond positively to the Gospel before He predestined them to be conformed to the image of His Son (Rom 8:29; 1 Pet 1:2).
3. Jesus initiated the healing process of the man by putting mud on his eyes (9:6). God initiated the salvation process of sinners by sending His Son to be our Savior (Jn 3:16).
4. Jesus commanded the man to wash in the pool of Siloam to be healed (9:7). We are commanded to seek the Lord, call on Him with repentance to be saved (Isa 55:6-7; Rom 10:13; Act 3:19).
5. The man obeyed Jesus to be healed (9:7). We obey God, receive Jesus, to be saved (Jn 1:12).
6. A change was seen in his life (9:8). A noticeable change occurs in a saved person (2 Cor 5:17).
7. The man honored Jesus before unbelievers (9:17, 32-33). Saved people honor Jesus before unsaved men (Act 26:19-32).
8. The man told how he was healed (9:11, 15). We are to tell how we were saved by Christ (Act 1:8).
9. Unsaved religious men denied and persecuted the man for his testimony of Jesus (9:17-34).
Unsaved religious men often deny and harass a believer for his testimony of Jesus (Act 17:5-13).
10. Truth led the man to receive Jesus (9:35-38). Truth led many Jews to believe on Jesus (8:28-32).

What did Jesus mean when He said, "I am the door of the sheep"? 10:7, 9

The door was the entrance to the sheepfold. The shepherd would stand in the entrance of the fold so the sheep had to pass by him to get into the fold. He stood in the entrance to count his sheep to be sure that he had all of them. He was like a door to the fold. When Jesus said He was the door of the sheep, He meant that a person had to come by Him to be saved and go to Heaven.

What does the Good Shepherd do for the sheep? 10:11-29

The Good Shepherd is Jesus and the sheep are those that believe on Him. First, He gives His life for the sheep (v. 11). He dies for them on the cross to pay the penalty for their sins. Second, He knows His sheep and they know Him (v. 14). He has known who would believe on Him and be His sheep before He created the earth. They have known Him since they believed on Him. Third, He calls His sheep and they follow Him (v. 27). His call is given to those He knows will believe and has elected (Rom 8:29-30). Fourth, He gives His sheep eternal life and they shall never perish; no one is able to pluck them from His hand or from the Father's hand, Who gave them to Him (vv. 28-29). Jesus and His Father are one in nature and work together to give eternal life to the believers (cf. 5:24).