

# SCRIPTURE READING 1 ():1-21



"PEOPLE DON'T CARE HOW MUCH YOU KNOW UNTIL THEY KNOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE"

-THEODORE ROOSEVELT-

#### When is it true?

When someone has to tell another something that person desperately doesn't want to hear, but that they absolutely need to hear.

#### THETHING:

# Follow the one that laid his life down for you.

#### P O I N T 1

# Jesus is the gate for the sheep

He is the only authorized and effective way to flourishing life and away from ruin.

#### CONTRAST:

#### Gate vs. Theives

"I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.



#### The Negative:

"*Everyone* that came before me was a Thief and a Robber."

(Jesus is supremely serious about the way of salvation)

#### Principles of judgment:

- 1. What do they explicitly and practically teach?
- 2. What is the result of their ways?
- 3. Don't judge another's servant quickly (like criticizing another's kids and parenting)
- 4. Hope that Jesus accepts the faith of people that have some wrong beliefs—like you
- 5. Quick to correct, slow to condemn



- 1. Security and safety
- 2. Liberty and adventure
- 3. Belonging in diversity
- 4. Provision and flourishing

#### P 0 1 N T 2

### Jesus is the good shepherd

He is the only one that has proven how much He cares for your life, liberty, and protection.

#### CONTRAST:

## Good Shepherd vs Hired Hand

#### John 10:11

"I am **the good shepherd**. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The **hired hand** is not the shepherd who <u>owns</u> the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

## Ownership creates passion and committment God "owning" you is a good thing!

They are HIS sheep
He faces the wolves (risking His own life)
He keeps them form robbers (with fence and voice)
He does it voluntarily (Father loves Him)
He does it mightily (opens blind eyes)

# 2 Applications:

# What kind of caretaker are you?

Who do you look like to Jesus?

A Thief and a Robber?

A hired hand that runs?

A Shepherd like him who is loved by the father.

# What kind of voice do you follow?

Repetition: My sheep hear, know and follow my voice.

- 1. Into the safe gate (creed)
- 2. With me (discipleship)
- 3. Joining with other very different sheep (unity)
- 4. Out into my mission (stewardship)

