
Encounter(ing) God

Jesus
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Part 6
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Review

- **John 10:11**

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

Application — *As a good shepherd, Jesus gave His life — so we could have abundant life! The abundant life is evidenced by the amazing ways we get to encounter/experience Him.*

So important — **Jesus leads into abundant life, BUT only as we follow Him! Nothing “just happens.” We experience as we step into His will.**

- **John 10:4-5**

“My sheep hear my voice and follow Me.”

**If you're not following the Good Shepherd's lead,
you're not experiencing the Good Shepherd's life!**

The I AM Statements of Jesus

...what Jesus said about Himself

The eight *I AM* statements of Jesus are:

- **I AM** — Self-Existentent, Self-Sufficient, All-Powerful, All-Knowing, Ever-Present, God in human flesh who has come to invite you into glorious relationship/friendship.
 - **I am** the Bread of Life — when partaken of gives eternal life!
 - **I am** the Light of the World — won't walk in darkness, light of life!
 - **I am** the Door — only unique access — only opening for salvation
 - **I am the Good Shepherd**
 - **I am** the Resurrection and the Life
 - **I am** the Way, the Truth, the Life
 - **I am** the Vine
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I Am the Good Shepherd

— *Intimacy* — “*Into-Me-You-See*”

- **John 10:1-4, 11-16**

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice... “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

Last week — Five Ways We Encounter Jesus as Our Good Shepherd

So personal, so intimate!

John 10 He calls us by name, He owns us, He knows us, He goes before us

Psalm 23:1 He satisfies us. *He/me, He/my, You/me, You/my*

TODAY — TEN MORE WAYS We Encounter Jesus as Our Good Shepherd from Psalm 23

6. He Gives Us Rest

- **Psalm 23:2**

He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

- **Matthew 11:28-30**

“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

- Peace. Shalom. Surpasses understanding and circumstance.
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7. He Restores Us

- **Psalm 23:3**

He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

- Dr. Rutland says this is the key verse, the summary of all other benefits. Restores, revives, our life. From every foul thing the world and the devil throw at us. Our brokenness, wounding, addictions, hopelessness, insecurities, thought-patterns.
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8. He Leads Us in Righteousness

- This is the process of restoration. Jesus will lead you into what's right and holy where restoration and transformation happen.
- YOU MUST FOLLOW! *You cannot live in what's wrong and expect what's right to happen.*

NOTICE — *He does this for His name's sake, for His reputation. So that folks can see Who He is and what He can do in people's lives. He leads you in righteousness to show you off.*

WARNING — *to say you follow Him and then live in unrighteousness tarnishes His name's sake and confuses the public.*

Rather than living a contagious Christian life — you live a contradictory and confusing life.

9. He Calms and Composes Us

- **Psalm 23:4**

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

- We walk, don't run, don't panic — calm and composed.
 - In general, but especially in the area of the shadow of death, it's only a shadow, it's not substance; death doesn't have the final word for the sheep of His pasture.
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10. He Accompanies Us

- He will never leave us nor forsake us, He is with us always
 - therefore, we will fear **no** evil, real or imagined.
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11. He Comforts Us

- His rod and staff
 - His authority and weaponry
 - His scepter and security
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12. He Prepares and Preserves Us

- **Psalm 23:5**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

- Jesus is so unworried about your enemies at the door that He hasn't even stopped preparing the feast at your table.
 - His composure needs to lead to my composure.
 - His sleeping in the storm needs to lead to my sleeping in the storm.
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13. He Anoints Us

- Oil is Holy Spirit
- Anointing our heads symbolizes Him authorizing and empowering us to live as King's kids, doing Kingdom work.
- **1 Samuel 16:13, Acts 1:8**

14. He Overflows Us

- Wouldn't all of these benefits describe the overflow of the Good Shepherd's blessings upon our life?
- **Ephesians 1:3**
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ
- **Ephesians 3:20**
Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.
- **2 Peter 1:3**
His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue

15. He Assures Us

- As we follow Him, goodness and mercy follow us.
- The ultimate manifestation of that goodness and mercy is that we will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Good Shepherd

He calls us by name

He owns us

He knows us

He goes before us

He satisfies us

He gives us rest

He restores us

He leads us in righteousness

He calms and composes us

He accompanies us

He comforts us

He prepares and preserves us

He anoints us

He overflows us

He assures us

...among other things!

Discussion Questions

1. Explain what our responsibility is in obtaining the abundant life Jesus promises.
2. What has to happen in the soul restoration process?
3. Why does Jesus say that He does this “for His name’s sake”?
4. What is the difference between a rod and a staff in function and symbolism?
5. How can Jesus’ composure in the presence of your enemies, lead to your composure?

NOTES