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**Week 4: “I am the Good Shepherd”**

**Daily Time With Truth**

As you read these daily scriptures, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What is God saying to me?
2. What do I want to say to God in response?
3. How will I live out this truth?

**Day 1: Isaiah 40:11 (TPT)**

He will care for you as a shepherd tends his flock, gathering the weak lambs and taking them in his arms. He carries them close to his heart and gently leads those that have young.

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**Day 2: Psalm 119:176 (NRSVUE)**

I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek out your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

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**Day 3: Ezekiel 34:11-16 (MSG)**

God, the Master, says: From now on, *I myself* am the shepherd. I’m going looking for them. As shepherds go after their flocks when they get scattered, I’m going after my sheep. I’ll rescue them from all the places they’ve been scattered to in the storms. I’ll bring them back from foreign peoples, gather them from foreign countries, and bring them back to their home country. I’ll feed them on the mountains of Israel, along the streams, among their own people. I’ll lead them into lush pasture so they can roam the mountain pastures of Israel, graze at leisure, feed in the rich pastures on the mountains of Israel. And I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep. I myself will make sure they get plenty of rest. I’ll go after the lost, I’ll collect the strays, I’ll doctor the injured, I’ll build up the weak ones and oversee the strong ones so they’re not exploited.

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**Day 4: Psalm 95:6-8 (NLT)**

Come, let us worship and bow down. Let us kneel before the Lord our maker, for he is our God. We are the people he watches over, the flock under his care. If only you would listen to his voice today! The Lord says, “Don’t harden your hearts as Israel did at Meribah, as they did at Massah in the wilderness.

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**Day 5: Psalm 23:1-3 (MSG)**

God, my shepherd! I don’t need a thing. You have bedded me down in lush meadows, you find me quiet pools to drink from. True to your word, you let me catch my breath and send me in the right direction.

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**Discussion Questions:**

**1. Read John 10:11-18. What are the characteristics of sheep that cause them to be in so much need of a good shepherd? How does that correlate with us and our need for Jesus, Our Good Shepherd?**

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**2. Pastor John shared this quote from Dr. Lynn Anderson in the sermon, “Think of it. Jesus left the comforts of heaven and came into our universe, our pasture, to smell like sheep! Jesus sweated like we do. He walked our pathways, braved our wolves, faced our temptations, and shared our struggles. The Holy One of Israel came in Jesus Christ to be our good shepherd.” What thoughts come to your mind as you read this.**

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**3. Pastor George shared about a sheep he had when he was a child named Snow Ball. What happened to that sheep? Has your Shepherd ever rescued you from a similar situation?**

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**4. Have 2 or 3 volunteers read sections of Psalm 139. What can we learn about our Great Shepherd from this psalm? What words or phrases in this Psalm express the security and comfort you have experienced because of the care of your Shepherd?**

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**5. How have you wandered in your life? How has the Great Shepherd restored you?**

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**6. What pictures of the Great Shepherd speak the most to you and why?**

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**7. How do you recognize the voice of the Good Shepherd? In what ways does He speak to you? Can you share something significant that He has communicated to you that made a great impact on your life?**

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**8. Verses 15-18 of John 10 express the great love Jesus had for us to fulfill the destiny God had for Him. Read these verses again, and then describe your feelings as you let these words soak in. How will you respond to this great, sacrificial love?**

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