

The 4th Sunday of Easter ~ Sunday, April 17, 2016

“Living the Resurrection Life: A Life of Security”

John 10:6-18

“If we were put on friendly terms with God by the sacrificial death of His Son, just think how our lives will expand and deepen by means of His resurrected life.” (Romans 5:10)

We don't have as much _____ over our lives as we would like—and at the end of the day, we're not as _____ as we think.

So much of life happens _____; out of left field; unplanned and unprepared for. And this can leave us feeling _____ and unsafe.

What have the been the unexpected things in your life?

GOD'S PROMISES IN THE MIDST OF OUR INSECURITY

“The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms...” (Deuteronomy 33:27)

“I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.” (John 10:28)

“What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us?” (Romans 8:31)

In the midst of the insecurity that we can experience in this world, God promises to be our _____—our safety and protection.

“The name of the Lord is a strong fortress; the godly run to him and are safe.” (Proverbs 18:10)

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.” (Psalm 23:1)

“I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father.” (John 10:11)

The Pharisees were so caught up with _____ and regulations—with the letter of the _____—that they were unable to see the _____ that had just taken place.

Jesus responds to their _____ and spiritual _____ by

accusing them of failing to _____ God's people—failing to provide for their safety and security.

“A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will abandon the sheep because they don't belong to him and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. The hired hand runs away because he's working only for the money and doesn't really care about the sheep.” (Jn 10:12-13)

“You shepherds of Israel—should not shepherds feed the sheep? You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. Therefore you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord, I am against the shepherds.” (Ezekiel 34:1-10)

If Jesus is the shepherd in John 10, then we are the _____.

“For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.” (Psalm 95:7)

JESUS AS SHEPHERD AND US AS HIS SHEEP

#1. It puts us in our proper _____ and reminds us that Jesus is the leader and we are the _____. It reminds us how _____ we are on Him.

- Sheep are _____ animals, and so are we. We all get knocked down in life; we all have hardships; we all experience fear; and we all fall _____ to something bigger than ourselves.

- Sheep are _____ animals, and so are we. we all need a _____—a place of warmth and security.

And we all need a _____—we all need other people—family and community—where we find love and acceptance.

Sheep are easily _____, and so are we. We may think we're in charge and make all our own _____, the reality is, we can be highly influenced by other _____ and the _____ around us.

#2. It reminds that it the face of the changes and chances, and _____ of life the only place that we can find true safety and security is in _____.

JESUS OUR GOOD SHEPHERD & A LIFE OF SECURITY

#1. Jesus, our Good Shepherd provides security by calling us to _____.

“The gatekeeper opens the gate for the shepherd, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” (John 10:3)

“You are Peter, you’re a rock. That’s what your name means, and I’m going to build my church on the kind of faith that you have.” (Matthew 16:18)

Similarly, Jesus calls us by _____ and His _____ is clear.

“My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.” (John 10:27)

How well do you know the Good Shepherd’s voice?

#2. Jesus, our Good Shepherd provides security by _____ us.

Jesus clears up the _____ and offers us _____ for our everyday lives.

“When He’s brought His own out, He goes on ahead of them and His sheep follow Him because they know His voice.” (John 10:4)

Notice, it says the shepherd _____ the sheep, He doesn’t drive them, or walk alongside them. Jesus is always with us, however, He’s the One out in front, leading us forward—not the other way around.

We can follow the Good Shepherd with _____ that there’s no situation we will encounter in life that Jesus hasn’t already _____.

“This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin.” (Hebrews 4:15)

Jesus came to earth to experience everything that we experience—He’s already been there and done that—so He not only _____ with us and offers us comfort and strength, He can also show us the _____ through.

3 TOOLS THE SHEPHERD USES TO LEAD US

- A _____ was used to defend the sheep against an attacker. It was also used to keep the sheep from wondering.

Has God ever done that for you—you were wondering away and He sent a rock ahead to warn you.

- A _____ with a spiked end was also used to defend the sheep against attack.

There’s nothing that can come into our lives that Jesus can’t _____ because He’s _____ than all our trials and challenges.

“Greater is He who is in us than He who is in the world.” (1John 4:4)

- A _____ to guide the sheep. Every moment of our lives, Jesus is checking us over, taking note of our hurt and pain, so that He can bring _____ And _____.

How closely are you following the Good Shepherd?

#3. Jesus, our Good Shepherd provides security for us by laying down His _____ for us.

In John 10:7-9, Jesus uses a the metaphor of a _____ to describe His relationship to the sheep.

“I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures.” (John 10:7-9)

“I’m the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.” (John 10:11)

He didn’t just lie down to provide a protective _____ for the sheepfold. He laid down His very _____ on the cross, to show us the kind of shepherd He really is.

“Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)

Who are you going to follow?

Who are you going to trust as your shepherd?



Do I just know the Psalm or do I know the Shepherd?