



STUDY GUIDE

I AM 03.26.2017

[set up]

Why do some people struggle to be certain that God loves and cares for them?

What have you read in the Bible and experienced in your relationship with Christ that has helped you understand and be certain of God's love and care for you?

[digging deeper]

Read John 10:1-18.

List all the characteristics of Jesus as the Good Shepherd.

List all the characteristic of the robbers/thieves/hired hands.

How is the concept of a good shepherd a powerful depiction of Christ's love and care for us?

What are some of the wolves that Jesus protects us from?

Read Ezekiel 34:1-31. What common themes do you see between the Ezekiel 34 verses and the John 10 verses? Which Ezekiel verse is a prophecy regarding Jesus?

Underline or highlight all the times that Jesus references laying down His life. How many times does He mention it? He is of course speaking of His crucifixion for the sin of mankind. Others have died for their beliefs or people they love, so what makes Jesus different? Where do you see that represented in John 10?

Why do you think that it becomes easy for Christians to sometimes let the wonder, amazement, and stunning nature of the crucifixion and resurrection to grow cold and lackluster?

Here are some additional verses to remind us of the significance of Christ's death:

Romans 5:6-8

Ephesians 5:2

Colossians 1:22

1 Peter 2:24-25

1 Peter 3:18

How can we keep the powerful nature of the cross and the empty tomb alive and fresh in our lives (this is another great opportunity to brainstorm and build a list as a LifeGroup)?

[living it out]

(Fill in the blanks)

Because Jesus is my Good Shepherd I can _____

Because Jesus laid down His life for me I can _____

One action step I can take because I'm certain of Christ's love for me is _____

One way I can imitate the Good Shepherd in the lives of others around me is to _____

(love, care, guide others in your life—children, friends, work associates, neighbors, etc.)