February 9 Discussion Questions "God Makes Himself Clear"

Review

"I am the door of the sheep... If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture... I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:7,9,11

Jesus is the <u>True</u> Shepherd (v. 1-2)

- Jesus exposes **False** shepherds (John 9:39-41)
- Jesus forces a <u>Decision</u> (John 10:19-21, 24-26)
- Where do you stand with Jesus?

Jesus is the True Shepherd

- 1. He <u>Knows</u> us (v. 2,14,27)
- 2. He <u>Leads</u> us (v. 3-4)
- 3. He **Saves** us (v. 9,11,12,14-15)
- 4. He **<u>Protects</u>** us (v. 28)
- 5. He **<u>Provides</u>** for us (v. 9-10)

<u> True Believers</u>

- 1. Know Jesus (v. 14-15)
- 2. Hear His voice (v. 4,16) and
- 3. Follow Him (v. 4,27) because we
- 4. <u>**Trust</u>** Him (v. 26-28)</u>

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly... My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one can snatch them out of my hand." John 10:10,27-28

Connect

- 1. Besides your parents, who in your upbringing most watched out for your safety and spiritual development? To what degree did this person's watchfulness impact your life?
- 2. How are the responsibilities of a shepherd comparable to the person you named in question 1?

Read John 10:1-16

Discuss

- 3. In what ways are we like sheep? In what ways is Jesus like a shepherd?
- 4. According to v.4, why do the sheep follow Jesus?

- 5. How does God speak to us today? How does a believer discern the voice of God compared to the voice of "strangers?" (v.5)
- 6. What does it mean that Jesus is the "door of the sheep?" (v.7)
- 7. How would you describe the "abundant life" Jesus offers to believers? How is it better than the "life" the world offers? Share from your experience.
- 8. How is v.16 an encouragement in evangelism? Does it increase or decrease your weight of responsibility?

Apply

- 9. In your current season, which of these aspects of Jesus as our "True Shepherd" is most encouraging to you: (1) He knows us, (2) leads us, (3) saves us, (4) protects us, or (5) provides for us? Why?
- 10. How have you experienced Jesus as a "Good Shepherd" in your life?
- 11. "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy." How have you seen or sensed Satan waging war against your spiritual life? How are you doing in your battle against Him?
- 12. To what degree do you make a habit of listening for the voice of God in your life? How can you improve your listening skills?
- 13. Pastor Darin has been saying that Jesus forces people into making decisive decisions about Himself. Are there any decisive decisions for Jesus you need to make in your life today?

Pray

- 14. Pick a specific aspect from the application questions that you want God's help with:
 - a. To more fully trust God as the "Good Shepherd" over your life.
 - b. To wage war against the enemy in the strength Jesus provides.
 - c. To more clearly hear the voice of God in your life.
 - d. To make a decisive decision for Jesus.