



**Sermon Series:**

I Believe

**Speaker:** Dave Lee

**Date:** April 21, 2024



## Connect (25 min)

**Ice Breaker:** Can you remember a time when you first started feeling a sense of ownership for something and how did that change how you treated it? (Your first car, first bit of earned money, etc.)

## Message Discussion (35 min)

1. In John 10 Jesus refers to himself as the “good shepherd.” While this imagery might not be common to us in our day and age, what sort of images come to your mind when you picture Jesus as a Shepherd and you as a sheep? Anything comforting? Anything helpful?
2. Take a moment to read 1 Samuel 17:34-36. This is David talking about his experience as a shepherd. How does this relate to Jesus’ fierce protection of his flock? In what ways might you experience Jesus’ intense protection of your soul?
3. Dave shared a lot about hearing the voice of Jesus, just like sheep would have distinctively known the voice of the shepherd. Dave shared a few avenues for hearing God’s voice to us (Scripture, sermons, conviction), what are some ways that you sense God speaks specifically to you in a way that you recognize?
4. Dave also shared that “we are not a flock of no names.” What significance is there for you in Jesus knowing you by name?
5. Each of our stories reflect the unique way in which Jesus calls us to himself. As a life group, consider how you all might go about learning about one another’s testimonies as you gather.
6. Sometimes discerning the voice of God leading us in decision making is challenging for us. Dave offered 4 steps in discerning his guidance.  
**1. Prayerfully seek God. 2. Commit your way to him. 3. Make a thoughtful decision. 4. Ask God to guide you towards his purposes.** Have you ever had a time where you did something similar and God led you? Have you ever had a time where you wished you would have sought God’s will in a decision?

7. Dave shared about having doubts. He used the analogy of us not holding onto Jesus, but Jesus holding on to us. As you reflect on the promises of Jesus found in John 10:27-30, how might it help you in your own sense of security?

## Application & Prayer (20 min)

**Praying Together:** Share a decision you are currently in the middle of making and ask for God's guidance in it.



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## LEADER GUIDE

### Connect (25 min)

**Ice Breaker:** Can you remember a time when you first started feeling a sense of ownership for something and how did that change how you treated it? (Your first car, first bit of earned money, etc.)

**Prayer:** *Lord Jesus, our great and good shepherd, we've gathered to enjoy one another, but also to hear your voice. Guide us in all truth and righteousness as we seek to understand more of who you are and seek to follow you. Meet with us here by your Spirit we ask in Jesus' name, amen.*

### Message Discussion (35 min)

1. In John 10 Jesus refers to himself as the “good shepherd.” While this imagery might not be common to us in our day and age, what sort of images come to your mind when you picture Jesus as a Shepherd and you as a sheep? Anything comforting? Anything helpful? **Consider drawing on Psalm 23 for inspiration.**
2. Take a moment to read 1 Samuel 17:34-36. This is David talking about his experience as a shepherd. How does this relate to Jesus' fierce protection of his flock? In what ways might you experience Jesus' intense protection of your soul? **This could be protection from temptation, doubts, discouragement, wandering, hell, etc.**
3. Dave shared a lot about hearing the voice of Jesus, just like sheep would have distinctively known the voice of the shepherd. Dave shared a few avenues for hearing God's voice to us (Scripture, sermons, conviction), what are some ways that you sense God speaks specifically to you in a way that you recognize? **Leave room for people to hear God in many different ways (through a nature walk, silence and solitude, worship music, good conversations with friends, journaling, etc.)**
4. Dave also shared that “we are not a flock of no names.” What significance is there for you in Jesus knowing you by name?
5. Each of our stories reflect the unique way in which Jesus calls us to himself. As a life group, consider how you all might go about learning about one another's

testimonies as you gather. **This could mean trying out the idea of sharing one testimony each time you gather, or a number of other ideas.**

6. Sometimes discerning the voice of God leading us in decision making is challenging for us. Dave offered 4 steps in discerning his guidance.  
**1. Prayerfully seek God. 2. Commit your way to him. 3. Make a thoughtful decision. 4. Ask God to guide you towards his purposes.** Have you ever had a time where you did something similar and God led you? Have you ever had a time where you wished you would have sought God's will in a decision?
7. Dave shared about having doubts. He used the analogy of us not holding onto Jesus, but Jesus holding on to us. As you reflect on the promises of Jesus found in John 10:27-30, how might it help you in your own sense of security?

## Application & Prayer (20 min)

**Praying Together:** Share a decision you are currently in the middle of making and ask for God's guidance in it.

(If helpful, break into groups of Men/Women or 3-4 people. I would also recommend not simply listing many disconnected things from far removed aspects of your life, friends, or family, but focusing on those things in your own lives that need prayer that come out of this message or that come out of your 'highs and lows', and if necessary a few brief requests for other things going on)

## Resources

### Hyperlinked Scripture:

[John 10:1-15](#), [Jeremiah 23 \(Woe to Shepherds\)](#), [1 Samuel 3 \(Samuel's calling\)](#), [Acts 9 \(Paul toward Damascus\)](#)

### Resources:

[Sermon Podcast](#)