



### Study 8 Leader notes: John 10:7-30

**Main point:** Jesus is the good shepherd who gives eternal life

**Main application:** Lean on Jesus, our great shepherd, knowing nothing can take us from him

**Note:** the answers and purpose statements are there as indicative guide to help the study leader guide discussion. If the content of one discussion in relation to a question covers the answer and purpose of a following question, skip that question

### Pray

**Launch:** What leaders do you listen to the most?

**Read:** John 10:7-21

Observation:

1. What does Jesus say about himself?

*Answer: I am the gate v7 and 9, comes to give life v10, I am the good shepherd v11, 14, Jesus knows his sheep 14, Jesus lays down his life for the sheep v15, 17-18, Jesus has authority to lay his life down and take it up again v18*

Meaning:

2. What is Jesus implying about the religious leaders?

*Answer: that they are thieves and robbers v8 because they take rather than give, that they are not listened to by the people v8 because the people do not belong to them, that they are hired hands v12 who only care for their own wellbeing and not the people: in fact, they would abandon the people to 'wolves' v12, that they do not know the Father, unlike Jesus who does know the Father v15, and perhaps they are not loved by the Father (they are not loved by the Father like Jesus is, for sure!) because they will not lay their life down v17*

3. Why are Jesus' words about the religious leaders:

a. Such a slight?

*Purpose: to see that Jesus is saying that the Pharisees have failed in their role as the leaders and guardians of Israel*

b. So true?

*Purpose: the Pharisees have not celebrated the healing of the blind man in chapter 9. Instead, they interrogate him and call him a sinner*

4. How does Jesus fulfil the role the Pharisees were meant to fulfil?

*Purpose: to see that Jesus is the leader and guardian God's people need because Jesus brings people into peace with God by the gospel and supplies them with what they need*

**Read:** John 10:22-30

Observation

5. What evidence does Jesus give to the Jews that he is Messiah?

*Answer: Jesus points to his past statements v25 and his works*

Meaning

6. What is the difference between those who receive Jesus and those who reject him?

*Answer: those who reject are not his sheep v26 – they are deaf to Jesus' words. In a way, they are 'spiritually' deaf. But those who listen to Jesus are his sheep, and receive eternal life from him, never to perish*

7. Why is Jesus alone capable of giving eternal life?

*Purpose: to see that Jesus relationship with his Father means that he will go to lay down his life for the sheep v17-8 and who receives these sheep as Son to the Father v29*

Application

8. What leaders do you rely on most during crisis?

*Purpose: to expose the 'leaders' we go to*

a. Why is Jesus' leadership so much greater and certain?

*Purpose: to reorient us to Jesus, our great shepherd, who guards us and guides us*

b. What needs to change in your own life so that you come under Jesus' leadership?

*Purpose: open discussion that can form some of your prayers in pairs*

**Pray**

- Thank God for Jesus, who provided salvation for us by laying down his life for us
- Confess the times you have listened to voices over and against Jesus or followed others before him
- Ask God to help you listen to and follow Jesus as your shepherd.