



Day 1: Cow or Sheep?

Scripture: John 10:2-4, Matthew 2:6

"The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep... the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out... he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice."

The Rundown: We started Sunday with a simple question: Do you want to be a cow or a sheep? It sounds funny, but it's how you determine who is ruling your life. Cows have to be driven from behind—pushed, prodded, and forced with whips and hot sticks. That's how the enemy works; he drives you with shame, fear, and force. Sheep are different. Sheep are led. The Shepherd walks out in front, and the sheep follow because they trust Him.

The Challenge: Look at your life right now. Do you feel "driven"—anxious, forced, frantic, pushed by fear? Or do you feel "led"—following a voice you trust, even if the path is unsure? Jesus doesn't use a cattle prod. He uses His voice.

Action Step: Stop for 2 minutes today. Silence your phone. Ask yourself: "Am I being pushed by pressure, or led by Jesus?" Ask the Shepherd to show you His pace for your day.

Pray



Day 2: Information ≠ Transformation

Scripture: Micah 5:2, James 2:19

"You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder."

The Rundown: The religious leaders in Matthew 2 were Bible trivia champions. They knew exactly where the Messiah would be born (Bethlehem). They could quote the prophet Micah perfectly. But when the Messiah actually arrived, they didn't walk five miles to go see Him. They stayed with Herod. We learned on Sunday that Information does not equate to Transformation. You can know all the right answers and still be lost. Even the demons know who Jesus is—they know the facts, but they refuse to submit. Don't let your faith be just a head game.

The Challenge: Is there an area of your life where you have "the right answer" but the "wrong action"? Maybe you know you should forgive, but you're holding a grudge. Maybe you know you should be generous, but you're holding back.

Pray



Day 3: He Makes Me Lie Down

Scripture: **Psalm 23:1-3**

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul."

The Rundown: Sheep are prone to wander. As we said Sunday, sheep are not the smartest animals. Sometimes they don't even know they need to rest. That's why David says, "He makes me lie down." Sometimes God stops us. He puts a roadblock in our career, or He allows a season of waiting, not to punish us, but because He knows we need "green pastures" more than we need to run ourselves into the ground. A Ruler demands your production; a Shepherd protects your soul.

The Challenge: Are you fighting the "rest" God is trying to give you? Are you kicking against the goads? If things haven't gone your way recently, consider that it might be the Shepherd engaging the brakes for your own good.

Action Step: Identify one thing you are stressing over. Hand it to the Shepherd today. Say out loud, "You are in control of this, not me."

Pray



Day 4: Greater Things (Everyday Faith)

Scripture: **John 14:12, Philippians 2:3-4**

"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these..."

The Rundown: We often think "greater things" means preaching to thousands. But Jesus spent His life serving, feeding, and healing. He lived a life to show us how to live. "Greater things" happens when you plan a BBQ and trust Jesus with the conversations. It happens when you take a kid shrimping and talk about God. It happens when you treat others the way you treat yourself. If you'd buy yourself dinner, buy them dinner. If you'd take care of you, take care of them. That is the Shepherd's way.

The Challenge: What is one "normal" thing you are doing this week? Grocery shopping? working? Eating lunch? How can you turn that into a "Shepherd moment"?

Action Step: Do one thing for someone else today that you would normally do for yourself. Buy the coffee, hold the door, send the encouraging text.

Pray



Day 5: Where is He Leading You?

Scripture: **Matthew 22:37-39**

"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'"

The Rundown: We closed the sermon with a question about desire. What is that one thing Jesus keeps bringing up? The thing you're scared to do? Maybe it's starting a business, maybe it's planting a church, or maybe it's just cooking more for your family. Fear tells us to stay put. The Shepherd says, "Follow me." I ran from ministry for years because I didn't want to be poor. I took the long way around a pig's butt to get a ham sandwich, only to end up exactly where Jesus wanted me. Don't take the long way. Trust that where He leads, He feeds.

The Challenge: If you have a pulse, God has a plan. You are not done.

Weekly Call to Action: Tell ONE person this week where Jesus is leading you. Vocalizing it makes it real. Find a brother or sister in Christ and say, "I think Jesus is leading me to..." and let them hold you accountable.

Pray