The Good Shepherd – Pt. 1

This will be the first of a series of articles discussing Jesus proclamation that He is the good shepherd. This article was originally written by John Henson and published in Forthright Magazine.

Roman citizens had the absolute assurance of safe travel to any part of the known world. All a Roman had to say when traveling was, "civis romanus sum," and free passage was guaranteed.

The ability for people to go anywhere has been prized for centuries. In Israel, the leader was the man honored with the responsibility of leading the people out and bringing them in (Numbers 27:17).

A shepherd was charged with the responsibility of leading sheep safely to food and water. He made certain the flock could "go in and out" without fail.

Jesus said that he was "the Good Shepherd." He proved he deserved the title by his actions. Isaiah told Israel what the Messiah would do. He would bring good news to the meek, bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and set free the imprisoned (Isaiah 61:1). Those were precisely the things Jesus did (Luke 4:18).

By contrast, the religious leaders of the Jews were more like their counterparts in Ezekiel's day (Ezekiel 34:1-10). Instead of caring for God's people, Ezekiel said they had eaten the flock and clothed themselves with the wool.

The Good Shepherd takes care of the sheep. They know his voice and will not follow anyone else (John 10:4-5). With him, the sheep are fed, watered and protected.

Those who took Jesus' words to heart and believed him followed him. In his words, they heard the wisdom of the Creator (Colossians 1:15-17). What an amazing thing it must have been to hear Jesus speak. Truly, it must have been a moment people treasured, just as Solomon wrote that true wisdom was more valuable than gold or silver (Proverbs 3:13-14).

You can read the words of the Creator yourself in the pages of the New Testament. Pick up a copy and find out for yourself what it is like having a "profit better than gold."

Leachville church of Christ
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Leachville, AR 72438

LEACHVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Elders: Larry Brooks, Rudi Cagle, and Ken Beach
Deacons: Jerry Bolar, Joel Ingram, and Matthew Sills
Ministers: Raymond Lasley and Josh Vires
(870) 565-5097   (832) 904-2917

Sunday, April 29, 2018

Next Month's Service Assignments

Announcements: Josh Vires
Scripture Reading: Justin Beach

Birthday

Baileigh Vires   May 5

Upcoming Events

Tuesdays 10 am	ladies' Bible study; children welcome
today	fifth Sunday; potluck after morning services, evening singing service
tonight 5:30 pm	VBS meeting
June 10 6 pm	Drawn by Love ladies' meeting at 7th and Mueller; see Deanna or Pam to RSVP

Correspondence Course Ministry

week of April 25-30:
10 lessons graded

May Haiti Needs

toothbrushes
toothpaste
material and notions (zippers, thread, etc.)

Last Week's Attendance

Sunday morning: 39
Sunday evening: 33
Wednesday evening: 32

Weekly Service Assignments

Sunday Morning	Bible class: 9:45 am worship: 10:45 am
First Prayer	Raymond Lasley
Announcements	Ken Beach
Second Prayer	Matthew Sills
Scripture Reading	Matthew Sills
Lord's Supper	1. Braden Drury 3. Larry Brooks 2. Joel Ingram 4. Rudi Cagle
Closing Prayer	Larry Towell

Sunday Evening	6:00 pm
First Prayer	Larry Towell
Closing Prayer	Rudi Cagle
Lord's Supper	Matthew Sills Ken Beach

Wednesday Evening	7:00 pm
First Prayer	Larry Brooks
Closing Prayer	Joel Ingram