

## Sermon Questions for Reflection and Discussion

April 27, 2025 John 10:1-6

- 1) Thieves and Robbers - Jesus contrasts thieves and robbers who enter the sheepfold by another way with the true shepherd. In this parable, the thieves and robbers are the Pharisees. Who comes to mind as thieves and robbers - those that offer life apart from the life found in and through Jesus - today? What are some ways these false shepherds - thieves and robbers - lead astray or misguide the sheep, that is, the people of God?
- 2) True Shepherd - How does Jesus describe the true shepherd? What does the true shepherd do?

What do the qualities and actions of a true shepherd - a spiritual leader - look like today? Perhaps more specifically, what are the qualities and actions you look for in someone whom you want to follow? Someone whom you trust?

- 3) The True Shepherd's Voice - The passage states the sheep hear the true shepherd's voice. See v3. What are personal practices - things you do - to put yourself in position to hear the voice of God?

The passage states the sheep know his voice. See v4. What are ways you discern the voice of God? Or discern the voice of God from other competing voices in your life? What or who helps you to distinguish between them?

- 4) Goes Before Them - The true shepherd does not drive his flock from behind, but instead he goes before them. See v4. How do we see this in Jesus' life? His example? How has he gone before us? Do you find this reassuring? If so, why?
- 5) Flee from the Stranger - The true shepherd's sheep flee from a stranger. This may seem obvious, but have you ever found yourself listening to the voice of someone or something other than Jesus? Have you ever found yourself straying - or wandering - off the narrow way? If so, why? Did someone or something offer comfort or relief or success? Did another way appear more attractive? Or easier? Or simply more acceptable or likeable? Do you recall who or what alerted you to the precipice you were approaching? Do not feel compelled to share anything about which you feel ashamed, embarrassed, or simply uncomfortable for any reason! Be mindful, however, of how easily we are swayed and how difficult we often find sticking to the Way.