

## LESSON 1 - THE GOOD SHEPHERD

***Jesus loves you, and you are as important to Jesus  
as that one lost sheep is to the shepherd***

Once, there was a shepherd who had a hundred sheep. One day, one of them was found missing. He was very sad about his lost sheep.

He left the remaining ninety-nine sheep and went in search of the lost one. He searched and searched and finally found the lost sheep. He held it on his shoulder and carried it to the remaining sheep.

He was very happy and he invited all his friends to share his joy as his lost sheep was found.

Jesus told this story to His disciples to help them understand why God had sent them. “The people of God are like a flock of sheep. They feel safe when they have a shepherd whom they know and trust. When somebody climbs the fence and does not come in through the door, he is a thief. The shepherd comes through the door. The guard opens the door for him and the sheep recognize his voice. The shepherd knows all of his sheep and calls each one by name, and they come to him for guidance. But they will never follow a stranger.”

The disciples did not understand what He was talking about. So Jesus said again, “I am the good shepherd. I know the sheep that are Mine, and My sheep know Me. I will never abandon them. I am ready to die for them. My sheep obey Me. I know each one of them and they follow Me.”

Jesus Christ is the good shepherd. He loves us very much. He came down to the earth from heaven in search of his lost sheep. (**John 10**)



When we repent and come back to the way of salvation, heaven will rejoice.

Jesus Christ says, "There will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent." (**Luke 15:7**)

