



**F**riend, do you know we have a Good Shepherd in Jesus Christ? Did you know the Lord said He would one day come to the lost and be the Shepherd He knew they needed? Did you know He said He would rescue us from the dark, bring us home, feed us, place us in a good pasture, and tend to us HIMSELF? Did you know that? That promise is something to be thankful for itself! As I hope you believe and

now know, He made good on that promise!

Jesus proclaimed He is the Good Shepherd and He sacrificed His life for us. But here's a hitch, there are others not in the fold yet and they need to be! Jesus said He must bring them, too. Others must become part of one flock with Him as our Shepherd. How does Jesus shepherd us without being here in physical form? How does He add to the flock those that also need to become part of the fold? His Holy Spirit.

We expressed thanks for the Holy Spirit on day five and for His gifts on day eight. Today we thank God for His Holy Spirit which leads and guides us in all truth and tells us about the future. We have a Good Shepherd, in Jesus, through His Holy Spirit. Like a shepherd on the plains of a pasture, our Shepherd also looks out for our safety and welfare, keeping an eye on each of us, leading us to good forage and protecting us from the poison of the enemy who would like to snatch us from the flock. God, we are so thankful!! We also

have an opportunity to help the Lord shepherd, in the way we lead in the lives around us.

Spend some time observing everyone in your life you are responsible for. Spouse, children, family, students, teammates, reports at work - anyone who looks to you for leadership and guidance. Ask the Lord how He would like for you to lead and guide them. As a steward of the souls He loves dearly, how might He like to see you draw them closer to Him? Pray and seek God and be THANKFUL. He has stirred your heart by FIRST being a Good Shepherd to you, and now compelling you to allow Him to shepherd through you, by the way you live for Him and love others.

### **Ezekiel 34:11-16 NLT**

11 "For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search and find my sheep. 12 I will be like a shepherd looking for his scattered flock. I will find my sheep and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on that dark and cloudy day. 13 I will bring them back home to their own land of Israel from among the peoples and nations. I will feed them on the mountains of Israel and by the rivers and in all the places where people live. 14 Yes, I will give them good pastureland on the high hills of Israel. There they will lie down in pleasant places and feed in the lush pastures of the hills. 15 I myself will tend my sheep and give them a place to lie down in peace, says the Sovereign Lord. 16 I will search for my lost ones who strayed away, and I will bring them safely home again. I will bandage the injured and strengthen the weak. But I will destroy those who are fat and powerful. I will feed them, yes—feed them justice!

### **John 10:14-16 NLT**

14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, 15 just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They will listen to my voice, and there will be one flock with one shepherd.

### **John 16:13 NLT**

13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own but will tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future.

### **1 Timothy 4:4-5 NLT**

4 Since everything God created is good, we should not reject any of it but receive it with thanks. 5 For we know it is made acceptable by the word of God and prayer.

This reading plan can be found at <https://my.bible.com/reading-plans/9292-12-days-of-thanksgiving>