

# ***"With Jesus at a Sheepfold"***

## **The problems with being a sheep:**

We are not very smart,  
but don't know it  
We cannot defend ourselves,  
but put ourselves in danger  
We are helpless to resource ourselves  
but refuse to ask for help

## **Threats sheep face:**

Wolves:

Those who intend us harm  
By attacking and destroying

Thieves:

Those who desire to prosper  
By deceiving and using

Hirelings:

Those who are not dependable  
By abandoning and fleeing

## **But a good shepherd makes all the difference:**

He knows his sheep by name  
And they really know him  
Resulting in security  
He provides for his sheep by leading  
And they always follow him  
Resulting in abundance  
He protects his sheep by sacrifice  
And they faithfully trust him  
Resulting in unity

## **The advantages of being a sheep:**

We know who our shepherd is:  
Jesus is the shepherd  
We know where our shepherd is:  
Jesus is the gate  
We know what our shepherd does:  
Jesus lays down His life

***The Question: Is Jesus my Good Shepherd***

## ***John 10:1-18***

1 "I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 2 The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. 3 The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." 6 Jesus used this figure of speech, but they did not understand what he was telling them.

7 Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. 12 The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. 13 The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

14 "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me- 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father-and I lay down my life for the sheep. 16 I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. 17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life-only to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have

authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

NIV

Do you have a question for Pastor Rogers about the sermon this morning? You are welcome to text your question during the message. He will provide you a personal response by text or phone call by the end of the day. His texting number is 765-620-3481 or email at pcr52@sbcglobal.net.



Follow us on  
**twitter**

**What is Twitter?**

Twitter is a social networking service that allows you to share status updates with friends. It helps you share what you are thinking and doing with others. We use Twitter to send mobile updates from our services and enable you to interact with us during services. With Twitter, you can keep up with what's happening when you can't be here, and let us know what you are thinking when you are.

**How does Twitter work?**

When you send twitter an update, that status goes out to all your "followers." If you follow Middletownnaz, you will get our updates about the services either online or on your cell phone. When you reply to those messages, you send out a status update to your followers, including us.

**How do I sign up?**

Signing up is easy. Simply text "follow middletownnaz" (without the quotes) to 40404. If you have an account, you will become our follower and get our updates on your phone. If you don't, it will prompt you to create a new username. Just reply to that message with a username, and you're all set up.

**How do I manage my account?**

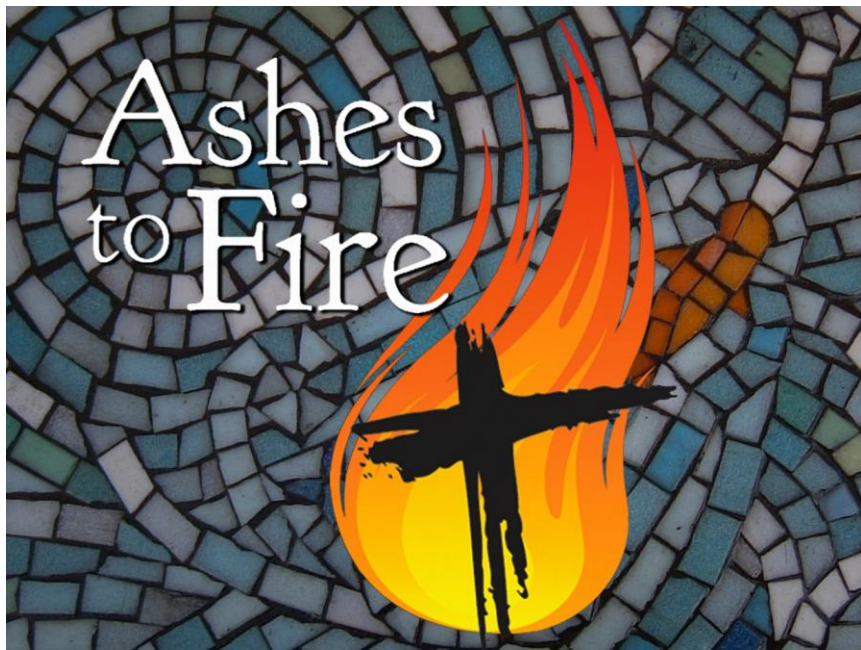
Go to <http://twitter.com> to set up your account and set options like protecting your status updates so only friends can see them. Just make sure you accept us as your friend!

**How much does it cost?**

Twitter is free, but standard text messaging rates apply, so make sure you have a plan that provides enough texts a month.

**How do I stop getting updates?**

Simply send "Off" (without the quotes) to 40404. You will have to send it twice to turn off all messages to your phone.



**May 15, 2011**  
(4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter)

*Luke 24:13-35*

*"With Jesus at a  
Sheepfold"*

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Master copy of notes and audio version of the sermon at  
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