



# Small Group Study Guide for May 8, 2022

*Our Savior Lutheran Church and School*

**Theme:** Jesus, our Good Shepherd, has us in His grip, and He will never let us go. We hear His voice and follow Him, and He gives us eternal life. Being a sheep of His flock means we have peace and security in the Savior.

## **Getting Started: (sharing with each other)**

1. What does Mother's Day mean to you and what do you think about on that day?
2. When do you find it most difficult to trust God and rely solely on Him?

## **In the Word: Read John 10:22-30**

3. What is the "Feast of Dedication" referenced in verse 22? Do some sleuthing as to the background of that festival.
4. Jesus states that both His words and His miracles were evident enough that He was indeed the Messiah. Why were they not enough for the Jewish religious leaders to be persuaded?
5. Sometimes our society portrays "sheep" as a bad thing, a pejorative term, where people don't think for themselves and blindly follow a misguided leader. Obviously, Jesus speaks of sheep who follow Him as a good thing. A follower is called "a disciple." How is being a disciple of Jesus, or a follower of Jesus, a good comparison with sheep who follow their Shepherd? (cf. **John 10:11-15**)
6. Read **Job 12:10**. The promise that the Lord holds our lives in His hands can have an aspect of law and an aspect of Gospel. How might it be Law? (see **Hebrews 10:31**) How is it Gospel? (**John 10:28**)

7. First Jesus says that no one can snatch His sheep from His hand (vs 28), and then He says that the following verse that no one can snatch them from the Father's hand (vs 29). Which is it? Discuss these two statements of hands in light of what Jesus says in verse 30.

**Putting it all Together (what do we believe or do as disciples?)**

8. What does it mean to you that Jesus is your Good Shepherd?
9. For Christians, the fact that Jesus/God holds us in the palm of His hand is a good thing. How does this bring security and confidence to believers, especially when Jesus says that no one can snatch us out of His hands?
10. This passage is often read during a "Sending service" or commendation of the dying when people are in their last days or moments by the pastor. Why is it so important to remember in the last moments of earthly life or other earth-shattering moments that Jesus holds us in the palm of His hand?

**Prayer:** Read together **Psalm 23**, and conclude by praying for each other and special prayer requests.

**Next Week:** Revelation 21 is a beautiful vision of the New Heavens and the New Earth, where Jesus has saved the best for last. He has come to make all things new! That all began with His resurrection.