



Sermon Study Guide for April 21, 2024

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: The hired hand doesn't care for the sheep of the flock like the shepherd does. The hired hand flees when danger comes. But good shepherds protect their flock. And THE Good Shepherd protects and laid down His life for us.

Getting Started: (sharing with each other)

1. This Sunday, April 21st, is our Church Work Recruitment Sunday. Do you have any church workers in your family? If not, what church workers can you think of?

2. Do you know of anyone who is interested in going into church work?

In the Word: Psalm 23

3. What comfort do you have in the Lord being your Shepherd?

4. The Good Shepherd takes care of His sheep. How have you seen the Good Shepherd working in your life?

5. The hope of eternal life is found in Psalm 23. "Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." What hope do you have in the Good Shepherd, and dwelling in His house forever?

In the Word: John 10:11-18

6. Jesus is your Good Shepherd. He cares for you, and watches over you. Another word for pastor, is shepherd. Your pastors care for you as sheep of our flock. What does that care look like?

7. How do you listen for the voice of your Good Shepherd? How do you see Him working in your life?

8. What is the difference between the hired hand and the shepherd?

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

9. Some of the numbers of church workers are staggering. Within the LCMS, there are 610 calling congregations that currently don't have a pastor, or are understaffed. That doesn't take into account schools that are in need of teachers. How can we help? What can we do? (Read Matthew 9:35-38)

10. How can we encourage those going into church work? There are many different reasons young men and women might decide NOT to go into church work. How can we encourage those that are on the fence, or are leaning in to church work?

Prayer: Thank God for the Good Shepherd who watches over us and cares for us. Ask God that He would help you to be an encourager and supporter of future church workers. Ask God that He would send laborers for the harvest fields!

Next Week: Spirit-Led Adventure:

The Spirit guides Philip on a powerful adventure with an Ethiopian eunuch on the side of the road. The mission crosses cultural barriers and brings radical hope through the gospel of Jesus. We walk by the Spirit, bringing the same good news wherever He leads us.