

# In the Knowledge of HIM

*Getting Reacquainted with Jesus (Ephesians 1:17)*

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## Jesus the Shepherd

*John 10:1-5*

*The deeply personal work of shepherding is one of several perfect illustrations the scripture gives of our relationship to the Lord (Psalm 23). Jesus came as Shepherd to show me that I am God's highest priority; there is nothing more important to Him than **ME!***

### *the CALLING of the Shepherd*

*The job of tending sheep is not for everyone. It is often lonely and frequently frustrating work, much of which is done in discomfort. Read Isaiah 53:6. True shepherding is a work of \_\_\_\_\_-investment; in other words, doing it right demands the \_\_\_\_\_, not just his \_\_\_\_\_.*

### *the CHARACTER of the Shepherd*

*Jesus refers to Himself not just as a shepherd, but as the Good Shepherd (John 10:11). He is a \_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd, sensing personally the needs of His fragile and fearful flock! He is a \_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd, knowing all things and fully able to protect and prosper the flock! He is a \_\_\_\_\_ Shepherd, undaunted by the dangers that threaten the flock, having already defeated death itself!*

### *the COMMITMENT of the Shepherd*

*The character of sheep demands that the shepherd be "all in." His constant \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ is required just to keep the sheep **alive**, let alone healthy and thriving! David affirms the commitment of his Shepherd, the Lord, when he says to God "thou art with me" (Psalm 23:4). Therein lies the Christian's ultimate consolation in all circumstances; wherever I go (under His guidance), He's right there with me!*

## *the CARE of the Shepherd*

*Jesus' parable in **Luke 15:1-7** illustrates the supreme concern that God has for each and every precious soul. The Good Shepherd doesn't just love the \_\_\_\_\_; He loves every single \_\_\_\_\_! (And don't overlook the effort of God in coming after you when you wander away. You didn't find your way back; He came and got you!)*

*We can see the Shepherd's care manifested in...*

*...His personal \_\_\_\_\_ (**Ezekiel 34:16**)*

*The Good Shepherd of Israel is intimately acquainted with the needs of the sheep and will attend to those needs Himself!*

*...His personal \_\_\_\_\_ (**John 10:3-5**)*

*The Good Shepherd knows His own sheep by name and cultivates a relationship with them built on TRUTH and TRUST.*

*...His personal \_\_\_\_\_ (**John 10:11-13**)*

*The Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep, literally putting Himself in place to take the attack the enemy aims at His helpless flock.*