

## Instructions

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and pick 3-5 questions to discuss, which pertain to your group's unique needs and style.

For the video related questions, look up the video in RightNow Media. You can do this on a phone, tablet, computer, or SmartTV device. You can easily find the video by clicking on the "Revolution Church" channel within the app. If you or a group member needs access to RightNow Media, please email [info@revolutionky.org](mailto:info@revolutionky.org).

**SPECIAL NOTE:** Consider meeting this week via Zoom or Hangouts. If your group uses videos for discussion, you may want to have your group watch them ahead of time and then meet to discuss what you've watched.

## Series Synopsis

According to its author, the gospel of John was written "so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31). Over and over again in this gospel Jesus refers to himself as "I am," connecting himself to God as the one who reveals the Father to the world. The God who was named "I AM" to Moses and Israel, now revealed in Christ the Son. In this series we will explore seven of the "I am" statements and metaphors of Jesus, as they draw us deeper into the mystery of God and show us the way to life in Jesus' name.

## Message Synopsis

The Greek word for good is *kalos*, which means fine, noble, or beautiful. Jean Vanier argues that the best understanding of good here is *true*; Jesus is the *true* shepherd. That is, the one with authority who leads through incredible service. The shepherd has so much care, concern, and love for the sheep that he is willing to protect them, even to the point of death. Jesus' self-identification as the good shepherd reveals that he is fulfilling the promise and work of God prophesied in **Ezekiel 34:11-16**. Jesus is the good shepherd, the one who gave his life for all.

## Key Scriptures

*John 10:11-19* is our key Scripture for this week, but you may also relate passages such as *Ezekiel 24:11-16* and *Psalms 23*.

## Questions Related to This Week's Message

1. God, the good and true shepherd, does for us what we cannot do for ourselves; rescues, nurtures, feeds, protects. Are there times when it is difficult for you to be "shepherded" in this way?
2. Read Psalm 23 again. How do you hear in differently today? Or how does it serve as a source of comfort or strength for you in this season?
3. Psalm 23 says the shepherd leads besides still waters and restores the soul. Where in your life or in our world do you desire to see restoration. Where do you need a reminder of the hope of the resurrection?

## Video and Discussion Questions from RightNow Media

“Psalm 23 (Session 2 – Psalm 23:2)” by Matt Chandler  
(located in the “Renovation Group Bible Studies” channel)

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/352010?episode=2>

NOTE: You could also consider watching this entire series at home this week and discussing via Zoom or Hangouts with some of your own thoughts and questions.

1. In this time to rest, stay home, spend time with family, and seek God, are you finding it to be green pastures and still waters? Or does this create more anxiety and stress (or other feelings)? Discuss your feelings with your group.
2. You might consider this time to be a Sabbath rest for the world. It’s amazing to see glimpses of God’s glory and beauty shining forth, such as families singing together out their windows in Italy or the canals in Venice turning clear and birds returning to the (formerly) heavily-polluted areas of Asia. How might you utilize this time to find refreshment and revitalization for your souls? How are you seeing glimpses of glory, of green pastures, of still waters this week?
3. It can be hard to see ourselves as sheep sometimes, or as needing a Shepherd to guide us, even for such simple things as finding provision and finding peace (or even finding toilet paper!) As we’re faced in a very real way with being “out of control,” how can you learn to be a better follower and sheep?

### Family-Related Questions:

1. This is a great time for your kids to slow down and find green pastures. It can be tempting to inundate them with multimedia right now, especially if you are working from home and trying to be productive. Talk with your group about some creative ways you can grow together as a family this week, or that you can help them find peace in being still.
2. This is also a great time to engage with your kids in prayer, to teach them how to find God’s light in the midst of uncertainty (to find God in ordinary things all around), and to teach about caring for others in need. Talk about how you are doing these things with your kids, what their reactions are, and how you’re leading them through this uncertain time.
3. Consider letting your kids video chat with the other kids in your group to keep relationships strong, to lead them in a simple group prayer, and share their feelings with each other about what’s going on in the world. Come up with some specific questions and choose a leader in your group to guide this time, but don’t make it too structured – let your kids do most of the leading. Zoom and Hangouts work great for this and are free tools available on most smartphones, tablets, and computers.
4. How can you show love to your neighbors as a family this week, despite social distancing?