

When God Isn't Good



John 10:1-21

English Standard Version



R A D I C A L T O G E T H E R

When God Isn't Good

- What is good?
- Our understanding of good has gotten skewed
- What if you've settled for good, but your good is really bad, and the true good is better than you think?



¹"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.



R A D I C A L T O G E T H E R

⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

~JOHN 10:1-6



R A D I C A L T O G E T H E R

When God Isn't Good

- Lots of symbols here:
- Sheep= Israel
- Thief/robber= false religious leaders
- Shepherd= Jesus
- What is the door?
- Passing under the shepherd's staff



When God Isn't Good

- These sheep have been thinking, "These are my true shepherds. They have my best at heart. They're good."
- What false shepherds have you been following?



¹ I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ²preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,

~2 Timothy 4:1-3



R A D I C A L T O G E T H E R

When God Isn't Good

- Jesus is the true Shepherd/Messiah coming to lead us
- He's out front
- His intent is to lead us
- His right is to lead us
- He's already been where we are going!



⁷So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

~JOHN 10:7-10



R A D I C A L T O G E T H E R

When God Isn't Good

- Image change from a village to the fields, rocks, hills, etc
- Sheep= church
- Thief= false religious leaders
- Door= Jesus...how?
- Saved= security, safety



When God Isn't Good

- There's a foundational and ultimate security that comes from Christ
- Security with God
- Are you insecure with your Creator God?



When God Isn't Good

- Pasture = The person of Christ and His Word
- In and out = Going back out into the rocky, hard, dark places without fear
- Are you going out and coming in?
- Are you hiding in safety?
- Are you straying too far?
- Are you feeding on His pasture?



When God Isn't Good

- Our souls were created for more than safety
- Zoe= life in things of the spirit
- Abundantly= beyond measure
- Our wants/desires/definition of good is filled up with God's life = our soul's satisfaction



¹¹ I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.



¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may 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 I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

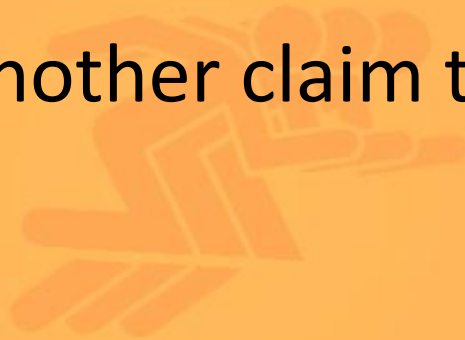
~JOHN 10:11-18



R A D I C A L T O G E T H E R

When God Isn't Good

- Good shepherd= Jesus
- Good= excellent, beautiful, beyond best
- In OT, God is consistently Israel's Shepherd
- Christ is making another claim to deity



When God Isn't Good

- Who are the wolves?
- Sin, self-worship, death, God's judgement
- Jesus is not a weak shepherd!
- Look at the enemies He defeated
- Look at His love for us



¹⁹ There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. ²⁰ Many of them said, "He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?" ²¹ Others said, "These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

~JOHN 10:19-21



R A D I C A L T O G E T H E R

When God Isn't Good

- How are you seeing Christ right now?
- Demonic and insane?
- The Author/Bread/Giver of life?



R A D I C A L T O G E T H E R

When God Isn't Good

- Verse 16 - Christ is gathering His flock today, right now!
- He didn't die for a small group of Jews, He's not in heaven hanging with dead saints, He's not in the grave
- He is the Living Shepherd calling His flock to Himself



When God Isn't Good

- He's committed to it and cannot fail!
- If we ever get stuck in our view of God's sovereignty, let's remember verse 16 and the greatest modern missionaries who were sovereigntists
- Brainerd, Livingstone, Townsend, Carey, Eliot, Paul
- Remember why we do what we do at The Sanctuary Fellowship



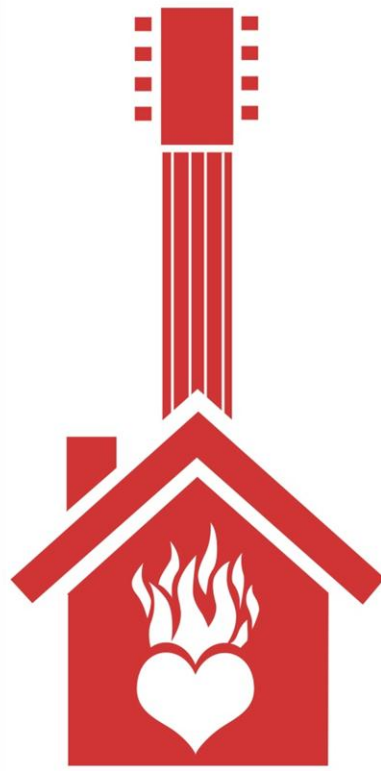
When God Isn't Good

- Have you settled into following something good that you've labeled awesome that's really not good at all?
- Here's Jesus, the Good Shepherd!
- Believe, hear, answer His call!
- Make me a sheep that follows You like I've crossed over the broken body of Christ to get in
- Send me to gather Your other sheep with confidence that You can't fail



A still life photograph of Thanksgiving food. In the foreground, there are two ears of corn: one with yellow and purple kernels, and another with dark purple kernels. Behind them are several pumpkins and gourds, some wrapped in straw. The background is a dark, textured surface. The text is overlaid on the image in a stylized, orange-to-red gradient font with a drop shadow.

Wed, Nov 23:
Adopt a Jenny Lane Family &
provide Thanksgiving Dinner
Sign Up TODAY!



HOUSE FIRES

Nov 10 @ Stewart & Karen Fulton's
RSVP for childcare

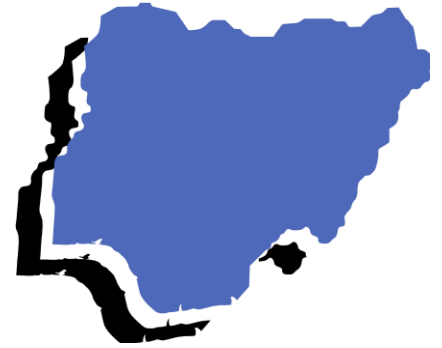
Ladies Ministry Invites

you to join us on

DECEMBER 12 for a...



Africa Meeting



Our next meeting is

Sunday, November 20th

@ Matt & Cammy Prine's

Email Matt to RSVP

mprine@thesanctuaryfellowship.com