

Sermon title: Who Cares? Scripture: Psalm 23:1-2 Date: Nov. 7 & 8, 2015

-[LET'S TALK]-

• Are you a fan of a sports team? How come? If not, are you a fan of something else?

—[LET'S WARM UP]—

- Does God care about this world and the people in it? How come?
- What is your motive for "doing good?"
- What things may prevent you from embracing your "sheepness?"
- Will you let God lead your life and set your agenda?

-[LET'S DIG | CHOOSE 1]-

- Read Exodus 20:8-11, Deuteronomy 5:12-15, and Exodus 31:12-13 and talk about rest.
 - a. What is the Sabbath and what differences about it do you notice in Ex. 20 and Dt. 5?
 - b. Focus on Ex. 20:11, how does God's creation warrant Sabbath?
 - c. Focus on Dt. 5:15, why would God cite slavery in Egypt as a reason for Sabbath?
 - d. What does Ex. 31 tell us about rest and why it is important for us and to God?
- Read Romans 6:15-23 and talk about freedom.
 - a. What are we slaves to?
 - b. Is it possible to not be a slave to something?
 - c. How can slavery to anything, even righteousness, produce freedom?
 - d. What sort of freedom does slavery to sin produce? Slavery to righteousness?

-[LET'S ACT]-

Practice letting God be your Shepherd and own your time. Take one goal that you have and
consider your reaction if you did not meet that goal. Then, intentionally give that goal to God
and trust him with the result by writing or telling God every day that the results are His. When
the results are in, take notice of your relationship with God and your reaction to the news. Talk
about your experience with others.

- OR -

Commit to establishing a Sabbath in your life. If that's very difficult, start with just one hour and aim to get progressively longer. Lay out some ground rules for what your Sabbath will look like. Try it for two months and tell someone in your group about your experience.



-[SERMON REVIEW]-

- Sermon Scriptures: [1 Sam 14:45-47] [Ps 23] [Jn 10:11-15] [Heb 13:5-21]
- We enjoy enormous benefits as the sheep of our Lord and Shepherd, but we must first *own* our "sheepness."
- Embracing our "sheepness" frees us from wanting more than is good for us, and frees us to truly love others and God.
- If we believe God is all we truly need, then hardships can only drive us deeper toward God.
- God asks to own our schedule, not just be a part of it.

—[NOTES]—	