



REVEILLE'S GPS WEEKLY SCRIPTURE GUIDE

Explore scriptures and daily devotionals that reflect on this Sunday's sermon message.
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May 5-11, 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sermon Series: "Living a Resurrection Life"
"The Good Shepherd" by Rev. Stephen Coleman

Use the space below to reflect on the questions in this week's devotionals,
make class and sermon notes, and write down prayers and concerns.

Questions for families, small groups, and individual reflection:

1. What does it mean to you for Jesus to be the good shepherd? Have you ever experienced Jesus as the good Shepherd in your life?
2. What does the passage in John tell you about Jesus?
3. As you read John 10 and Psalm 23, how do these passages give you life?
4. What response, if any, does this passage from the Gospel of John require of us?

Monday, May 5: Read John 10:22-30

This Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Easter, we have the opportunity to not only celebrate the mothers in our lives (both biological and spiritual) who have provided life, love, nourishment, and guidance, we also celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday, focusing on Jesus as the Good Shepherd and what that means for all of us. In a world where there are lots of false shepherds vying for our attention and speaking in our ears, it has never been more important to "know the Shepherd's voice" and be able to discern when we are being led to a place of holiness, safety, and love, and when we are not.

We are also living in a time when the world is craving safety, belonging, and peace with ever-increasing urgency. This week, as we read the scriptures, we are called to take time to abide in that peace and safety offered to us by the Good Shepherd, and equip ourselves to share the voice of the one true Shepherd with the world so they, too, recognize themselves as part of God's flock – protected, cherished, and welcomed.

- **Relationship Opportunity:** *Share a time in your life where you were saved by the voice of a good shepherd that echoed and amplified the voice of The Good Shepherd. How did the voice differ from the false shepherds who threatened to lead you astray?*

Tuesday, May 6: Read Acts 9:36-43

For this fourth Sunday of Easter, our lectionary readings continue to celebrate the freedom, peace, and power that come from the resurrection and being an Easter people. We celebrate what we can accomplish when we stay true to Jesus' message and work to bring God's kingdom to earth. Today's reading celebrates the miraculous healing and even resurrection of Tabitha, a beloved "mother" to the early Christians, and this time she is healed by...wait for it...Peter! A mere disciple turned apostle, and one who denied knowing Christ at that! This message speaks loudly to those of us today who feel helpless to heal the pain, discord, and instability in our world. Those of us who feel it's "too late" to do any good due to external circumstances or internal guilt. It's never too late, and it's never too big for Christ.

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Examine where you've found yourself tempted to "give up" on something or someone. Or yourself. Spend time in prayer and meditation with Christ, secure in his pasture as part of his flock, casting your care onto him and open to receiving his power, guidance, and peace.*

Wednesday, May 7: Read Revelation 7:9-14

Shepherds can see farther than their sheep. They not only recognize dangers, but they can lead their flocks to still waters and green pastures that the sheep can't even comprehend. As we read today's prophetic vision of a world where all the multitudes gather together in unity to praise the Father and Son, it's tempting to dismiss this vision as delusional and unrealistic. But we can't see what God can. We don't see where we are ultimately heading, but God does. When we continue to listen to the Shepherd's voice and allow ourselves to be guided by the Shepherd's rod and staff, we can be part of the healing of the nations, the bringing of the kingdom, and the welcoming of the multitudes into God's fold.

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Meditate today on the vision of one unified world in praise and thanksgiving. What's easy to visualize? What is difficult? Where do you see yourself in it?*

Thursday, May 8: Read Revelation 7:15-17

Our Shepherd is not a distant king on a hill, shouting orders down to his subjects. Our Shepherd was first the Lamb, sacrificing himself so we could "hunger no more, thirst no more" and have every tear wiped from our eyes. Today's scripture reminds us to never forget the cross. The cross must remain our "true north" when listening to the true shepherd's voice.

- **Relationship Opportunity:** *Discuss: What message do you see for today's world in Jesus being both the sacrificial lamb and the Good Shepherd?*

Friday, May 9: Read Psalm 23

Hopefully, our studies this week have brought new insight, meaning, and life to our reading of this familiar and beloved psalm. Hopefully, these words bring comfort to all of us when we experience the dark valleys. Our prayer for you, our church, and our world today is that we all hear and amplify the shepherd's voice more clearly, leading us all to this vision of love, unity, peace, and security. Amen.

- **Study Opportunity:** *Read today's psalm in multiple translations. Make one of your own.*

Saturday, May 10: SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: Revelation 7:17

"For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." (NRSV)

Sunday, May 11: Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship with our Prayer of Confession:

Gentle Shepherd, You guide us in right paths, You lead us in the ways of righteousness, but we have allowed our anger, our rage, our greed, and at times even hate, to direct our paths. Forgive us, God, for not following Your ways. Forgive us for not remembering that we are Your sheep, and You are our Shepherd. Forgive us when we have not listened for Your voice and instead have acted in the ways of the world. Guide us back to Your path, to loving You and loving our neighbors. Help us lend out our hands in hope and healing, forgiveness and love. In the name of Christ our Shepherd we pray. Amen.

-Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, Rev-o-lution.org: Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/05/easter-4-confession-assurance.html>