

There Are Other Sheep – John 10:1-16

Have you ever read a Scripture that you've heard/read many times before, but for some reason this time a detail you never noticed before jumps off the page?

We are in our second week of this "TRY PRAYING" series, and the focus for this week is to invite others to try praying, in hopes that God will be at work and draw them into a saving relationship with Jesus Christ through it!

This brief promotional video reveals the driving force behind this initiative!

It's simple, we receive the booklet & read/pray it ourselves (we use it), then we prayerfully give it away to someone else & invite them to read/pray it as well (we lose it). It's a simple tool, but one that could have a profound impact!

So right now I want you to start thinking about who you can give your book to!

Why is this 2nd step of giving it away so important? Verse 16 - ***"And I (Jesus) have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, & they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd."***

We as a church need to see that this/we are not all there is! We are not the only ones who God intends to bring into the Kingdom of Heaven! There are others who have not yet been brought in, who have not yet heard the gospel, who have not yet begun a relationship w/Jesus, who God intends to save!

Jesus is the Good Shepherd, He laid down His life for the sheep! But there are lost sheep out there who have not yet been brought into the fold!

Who are they?

- They are religious people who don't yet know Jesus personally!
- They are non-religious people who are open to the idea of God!
- They are people far from God, who God intends to save their souls also!

There are missing sheep, who God wants to bring also into His Kingdom!
What are we doing to join Him in this work?

Here's my revelation from John 10: We are not called to stay in the sheep pen!

Vs. 3-4 – "The sheep hear his (Jesus') voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice."

Jesus is the shepherd! We are the sheep! The sheep recognize the voice of Jesus and follow Him! But did you notice that He is not leading them into the pen, but out of it, where other sheep are who are not yet in the fold!

It's not just an inward swinging door, it also swings outward! And we are not just intended to follow Him in, we are also intended to follow Him out!

Jesus is the door that opens outward before it opens inward!

Jesus left Heaven to come to earth! Then He left His own (Israel) to go to the Gentiles. He is always going out in order to bring in! Are we doing the same?

Which way is the door swinging in this church in order to grow the Kingdom?

The lost sheep are out there! What are we going to do about it? Just sit around in the sheep pen? If we do, then we are not following Jesus!

Jesus is always going out, if even just to find the one! Who is that one, who Jesus might be pursuing that as you follow Him, they too may follow with you & enter through the door that brings them into the fold of God?

Jesus is the door to the Kingdom of Heaven! That door swings outward as well as inward, but it also unlocks from both sides – with the proper key!

The key that unlocks the door is the proclamation of the gospel – that Jesus is the Christ! Remember David's message from 2 weeks ago about the keys?

We can't get into heaven without it, but we can't follow Jesus into the world and fulfill John 10 without it either!

What have you done so far w/ the key you were given? Some may say it's no longer needed b/c they have already entered into the Kingdom by it!

Just remember that that key opens the door both ways! It gets you in, but it also let's you out so that you can follow Jesus & bring others back in w/ you!

There are a lot of Christians who enter in and then just hold on to that key! Jesus intends for us to use that key to help someone else into the Kingdom!

You were already asked to put that key on your key ring, but now im asking you to put a key ring onto that key w/ the name of a lost sheep on it! Then pray for that person, give them your booklet & trust that Jesus will lead you out with the key to the Kingdom in hand in order draw in another sheep!

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