

GROWTH GROUPS

April 15, 2012

John 10:7-18

Conversation Starter –

When the words “church” and “money” are put in the same sentence, what comes to mind?
What has helped to inform this impression?

Understanding –

The message being preached from John 10 on this day is the first of four messages having to do with the responsibility of Christian stewardship. When we speak about stewardship we talk about how God wants us to handle the resources given to us with a special emphasis on financial resources. We will be talking about specific statements Jesus made about wealth and material things over the next three weeks, but the question this morning lays the foundation for our ability to consider these statements. The question is simply, “Are we willing to trust that what Jesus commands will lead to a life-giving path in our life?”

1. Verses 7-10 help us to understand that with every decision in our life there is a way that leads to death and a way that leads to life? Who are those that entice us to take the path that leads to death? What does Jesus call these people? Name some examples of these types of people in modern day culture. The primary “thief” is Satan, introduced in Genesis 3. How does Satan seek to rob us today?
2. Jesus says, “I have come that they may have life to the full?” What does this mean? What does Jesus want for his followers?
3. Verses 11-18 explain that because Jesus is the good shepherd his “true” sheep listen to his voice as opposed to the voice of the hired hand. What does this mean? How will we know the voice of the Good Shepherd?
4. How would you respond to the question: “Are we willing to trust that what Jesus commands will lead to a life-giving path in our life?”

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