

Sheep Without a Shepherd

Dan Jenkins

By and large, Americans know so little about sheep, yet the Bible is filled with references to shepherds and their flocks. My nearly ten years of living in New Zealand allowed me to be around them. When I went to New Zealand, there were three million people living in that beautiful land and there were eighty million sheep!

I remember driving to conduct a Bible study at a residence on one of the large sheep farms (in New Zealand they were called sheep stations), and found the road blocked by a vast flock of sheep. Some of the stations in New Zealand had flocks that had over 15,000 sheep on them. There were not this many on the one where we were headed to teach the gospel, but it did not take us long to discover how “dumb” sheep are. There was no leader among them as we attempted to drive through them, so they aimlessly meandered around but never moved off the road to give us a path. Sheep will follow a shepherd and his dogs, but they are hopeless without a leader.

In Mark chapter six, Jesus saw a similar disarray, but it was not with sheep. “And Jesus, when He came out, saw a great multitude and was moved with compassion for them, because they were like sheep not having a shepherd. So He began to teach them many things” (Mark 6:34). Neither sheep nor people do well without a shepherd. They are hopelessly lost without someone to guide them.

There were shepherds in the Old Testament who needed to care for God’s flock (Israel). The problem was that they received the honor of being shepherds, but they never actually did the work of a shepherd. “You eat the fat and clothe yourselves with wool, you slaughter the fatlings, but you do not feed the flock. The weak you have not strengthened nor have you healed those who were sick, nor bound up the broken, nor brought back what was driven away, nor sought when was lost, but with force and cruelty you have ruled them, so they were scattered because there was no shepherd” (Ezek. 34:2-4). God looked down and saw exactly what Jesus saw in Mark six. His sheep, His people were scattered because there were no shepherds.

What better illustration could there be about the importance of the work of elders in the church today? What a joy it is to see shepherds in our day who truly care for the sheep. They not only care for the ninety-nine sheep who are doing well, but they especially focus their attention on that one sheep who has wandered away. Without shepherds, Christians struggle, for we need godly men to lead us. Thank God for those men who have hearts of compassion for those of us who are part of His flock!

PLACE OF WORSHIP

Secred Heart Cathedral,
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'KHRIS' SUANGPHUM, A WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR
THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, DELHI,
ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK'

Enkaitu : Jamson Guite

BIBLE CLASS**Class**

Adult : James, Siamkhanmuan
Inter. : Biakmang & Jamson
Junior : Minlun & Suanlian
Primary : Vungngaihkim & Rose
Beginner : Chingkhanlun & Nuam

Teacher

**TOUPA NI'
THILPIAK**

Date 21.5.2023 = 47,440/-

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

*A kipatna sang in thil tawpna a hoihzaw:
lungsim a kisaktheih sang in lungsim a dohtheih
a hoihzaw hi - Eklisiasti 7:8*

THU TUAMTUAM**THU TUAMTUAM****BIAKNA HUNZEEK****TOUPA' NI**

DATE 28.5.2023

Hun-uk thumna : Amjangthang
Lapi : Thangdoulia
Thilpiak : Nekkhothang
Theihgigena : Thangbiaklun
Thugen : Thangbiakmang
Thumna : Kammuanlal

MIDWEEK ONLINE BIBLE CLASS

DATE 31.5.2023

Thumna : Kamkhenthang
Sinsaktu : Chuck Horner
Thumna : Kammuanlal

KIGINNI

DATE 3.6.2023

Hun-uk thumna : Janglet
Lapi : Lamsuanmung
Thugen : Thangliankhup
Thumna : Ginlian

TOUPA' NI

DATE 4.6.2023

Hun-uk thumna : Janglet
Lapi : Lamsuanmung
Thilpiak : Thangzalam
Theihgigena : Thangdoulia
Thugen : Siamkhanmuan
Thumna : Thongginlian

TANU NEI UH

❖ Kal paita nilaini in unaupa Lam-suanmung-te'n Pathian vualzawlina gil a gah goutan tanu mel kilawmtak Max Hospital, Vaishali ah ana nei uhi. Naungek leh anu hoihtouzel in kal paita sintawpni in damdawi inn apan ana pawtkheta uhi. Mel leh puam bukimtak tanu ahon neih uh i kipah-pih mahmah uh.

BIBLE QUIZ NAI HIAHIAITA

❖ Hun leh nite pai hulhil in Annual Bible quiz neih hun diing leng hon nai hiaihiaita hi. Huchi ahiman in Bible quiz a diing sim kipat hunnawnta hi. Tutung quiz a i zat diing Isai laibu ahi a, unaute'n simpanta ni hang. Kisakkholh kipat hunta hi.

NGAPLOU

❖ Ngaplouhna khenkhat ziaik in unaupa Lunsang kal paita kiginni leh Toupa ni biakna hongtel ngaplou hi. Damna hoihtak ahong neihpah i deih-sak ua thumna ah phawk ni.

TUAILAI PROGRAM

❖ Ngeina dan bang in tuni'n leng biakkhawmna zoh chiang in tuailai program om nawn diing. Program hiai a nuai a bang ahi -

Hunkem : Lunsang
Lapi : Ginminlun
Thugen : Siamkhanmuan
Thumna : Lunsang, Pauminlun

Hun Nihna :

Pitu : Gin Samuel

Amun : Siamkhanmuan inn

Are We Salty Enough?

(Matthew 5:13)

The divine wisdom of God is so easily seen in the teachings of Jesus. The Master's use of metaphors in His instruction and storytelling transcend time, making them just as understandable to us as they should have been to those who heard them with their own ears. A great example is seen in the following passage: "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men." (Matthew 5:13)

Salt is a chemical compound composed primarily of sodium chloride and is used to preserve, purify, and season food. In ancient societies it was a valuable social and economic commodity. Salt and its usage is known and recognized the world over, what better image could Jesus have used to describe the influence His followers should have on the world. Just as salt enhances the flavor of our favorite food, we should be busy enhancing the lives of those around us. Like reaching for the salt shaker at the dinner table, our friends and neighbors should want to reach out to us when they need a boost during difficult times. Most important of all, we can improve the lives of others by sharing the gospel message. So how do I become more salty? We begin by developing the type of character described by the following:

"But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 1:5-8)