

For the children – the noticeboard



Who is Jesus?

*1. Jesus as the L*f* G*v*r.*

– = Life Giver

*– e.g. L*z*r*s*

– John 11:43 Dead → “come out”

– Gives eternal life to his people

*2. Jesus is the G**d Sh*p***d*

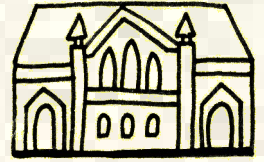
– = Good Shepherd

– John 10:11 “I am the good shepherd”

*– I**** his sheep*

*– c*r*s for his sheep*

For the children – the noticeboard



3. Jesus is L**d

- = Lord / master / sovereign***
- Acts 10:36 “Jesus Christ who is Lord of all”***
- Says “f*ll*w me”***
-

4. Jesus is the S*vr***

- = Saviour***
- “he will save his people from their sins” Luke 1:21***
- Save = res***, help to the helpless***

***Being a Christian is not following rules, or going to church
... but relating as a person to Jesus as he truly is.***

For everyone: Jesus is the good shepherd



*The Isle of Wight ferry:
“in the unlikely event of an
emergency ...”*

- it's important a matter of
life and death ...*
- but no one actually listens*
- listen up and follow
instructions!*

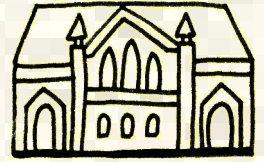


<https://www.isleofwight.com/a-complete-guide-to-the-isle-of-wight-ferry-crossing/>



<https://britishsafety signs.co.uk/>

For everyone: Jesus is the good shepherd



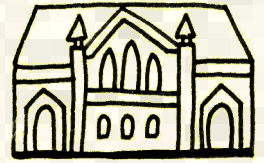
*How to have life in its fullest, most magnificent, form
... how to avoid death, ruin, shame, destruction and loss ..*

Jesus is the key to this – himself personally

- what he means is:*
- NOT simply being aligned with a group, or culture, or tradition*
- NOT performing certain rituals (e.g. being baptised as a child, attending mass)*
- NOT based on moral effort – balancing good deeds against bad deeds*
- IS relating to Jesus in a person-to-person way*

=> vital to know who Jesus really is, and how we are to relate to him. This is subject for today.

For everyone: Jesus is the good shepherd



Where to find Jesus?

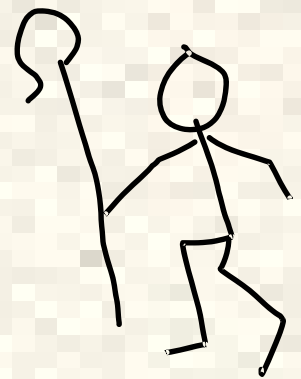
Jesus “steps off the pages of the Bible” – Christianity Explored course

- That’s where to find him*
- He can be found!*

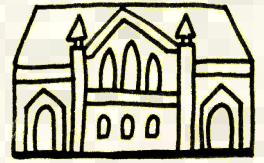
What/who do we find?

There are so many things that can be said of him

- Real*
- Truly human*
- Miracle worker*
- Teacher*
- Died on the cross*
- Raised from the dead ...*
- Today “I am the good shepherd”*



Jesus is the good shepherd



John's gospel (book/ biography/account)

John 10:1-21

Jesus talks about himself, and relating to him in likeness of sheep/shepherd etc

– 10:1-6 the shepherd versus the thief and the robber

- *Not understood*

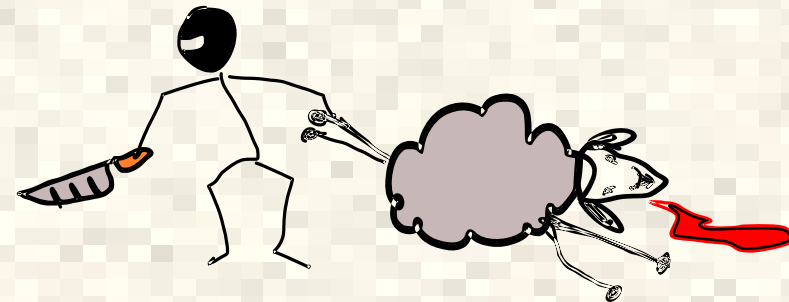
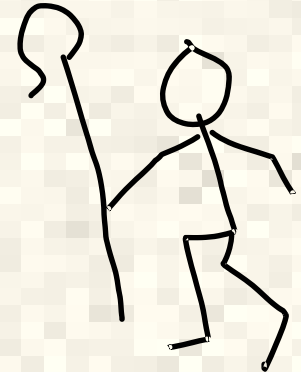
– 10:7-10 the gate of the sheep pen

- *That's how you go in and out and feed safely*

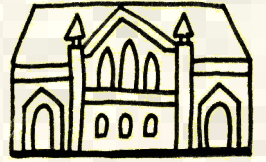
– 10:11-19 the sheep and the wolf

- *Shepherding as life threatening work*

Because of the wolf

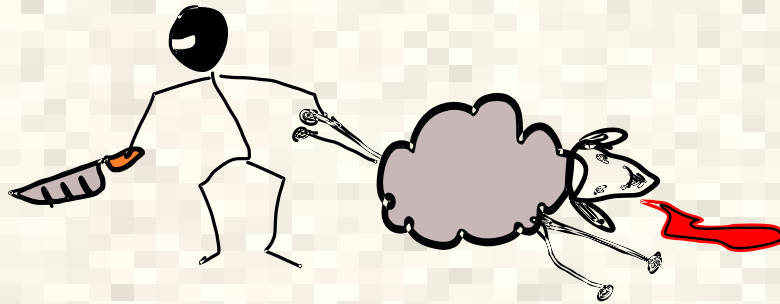


Jesus is the good shepherd



Look at

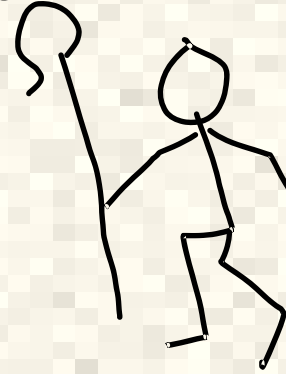
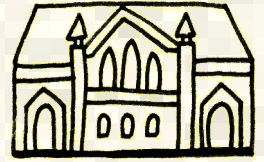
1. the shepherd vs the thief: gift of life



2. the shepherd vs the wolf: cost of death



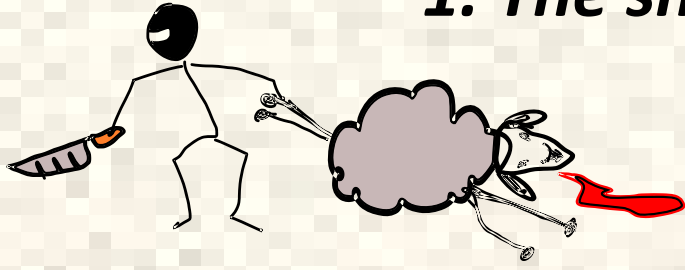
1. The shepherd versus the thief/robber: gift of life



N.B. The idea of a shepherd

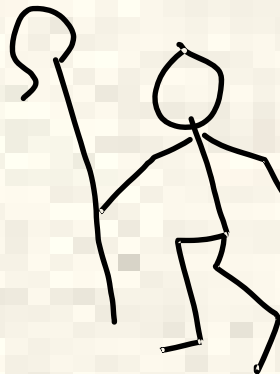
- In Jesus' time:*
- The Kings were called shepherds*
 - e.g. King David was a shepherd of sheep – then the shepherd of Israel*
 - = Messianic / Saviour*
- The LORD himself was called a shepherd*
 - “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want ...” Psalm 23*
- ==> for me to have a shepherd is a big thing ... my King, even my God*
- ==> the right claim to be Messiah to me (?)*

1. The shepherd versus the thief/robber: gift of life

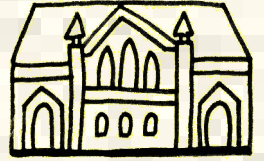
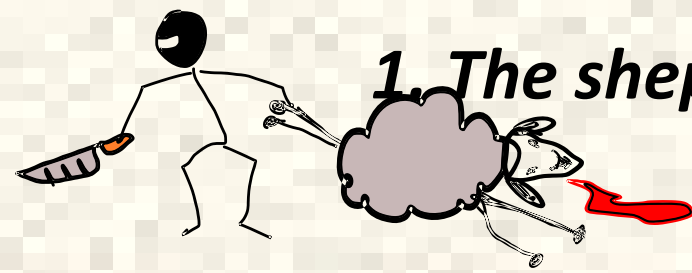


a. different intention

- v.1 thief/robber
- v.10 to steal and kill and destroy (= remove life)
- v.10 I have come that they may have life and life abundantly / to the full
- v.9 go in and out and find pasture



1. The shepherd versus the thief/robber: gift of life



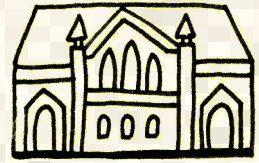
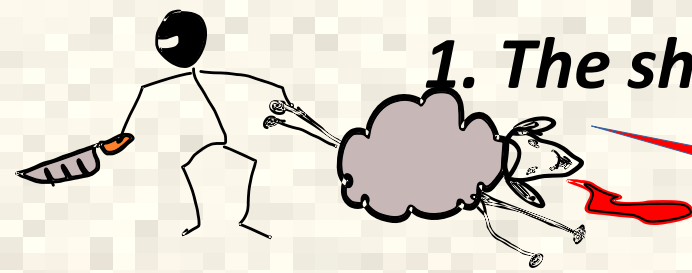
a. different intention

==> **big lie:** “God intends to make my life more limited, more unhappy, more restricted, less fulfilling ...”

- N.B. God does not “spoil” us by giving us everything we want immediately
- N.B. God intends us to grow as people long term ... so will put us through difficulties
- BUT – his ultimate intention is to give us *life to the full*
- Imagine:
 - The most beauty every seen
 - The most joy ever experienced
 - The best connecting relationships you’ve had
 - Multiply by 1000000 and that’s what God has in store for us
 - ==> be grateful, hopeful, thankful



1. The shepherd versus the thief/robber: gift of life

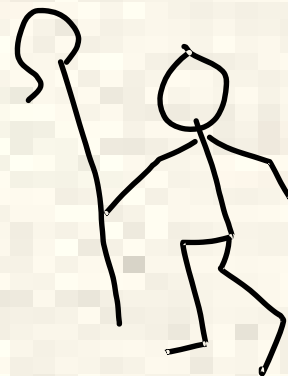
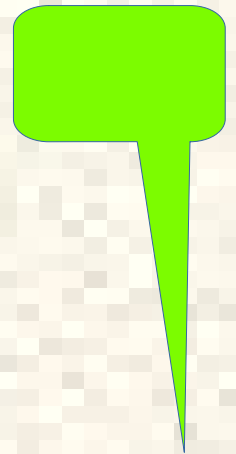


b. different rightness

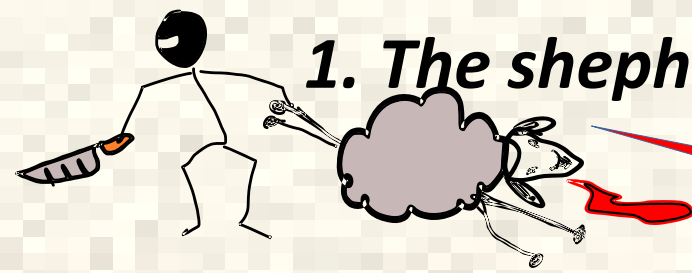
- v.1 the thief climbs over the fence*
- v.5 the sheep run away from the stranger because they do not know his voice*

Jesus the good shepherd, does things the good, right way

- He does not force himself upon us
- He does not breach proper boundaries to get into our lives



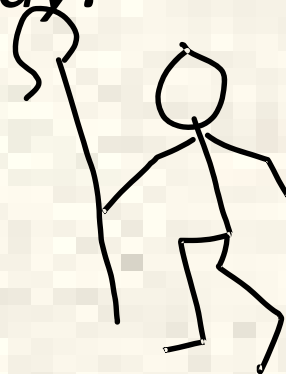
1. The shepherd versus the thief/robber: the gift of life



b. different rightness

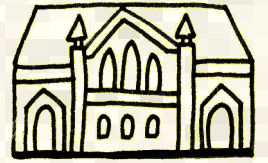
—==> things in our lives which claim to give us life, solve our problems, but are not good and right?

- *Abuse of alcohol*
- *Abuse of sex ... wrong sex which claims to save us, but ends us diminishing and spoiling*
- *Any good thing can go over the top ... money, relationships*
- *The sheep know this inside ... and run away!*
- *The sheep know the Saviour's voice and follow him!*

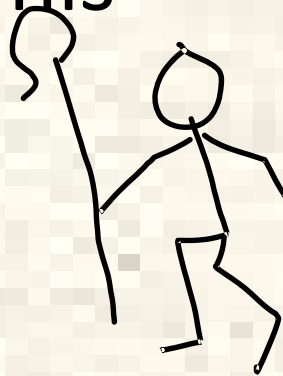


2. The shepherd versus the wolf: cost of death

Being a shepherd was not a safe easy job!



- Shepherds needed to be tough (e.g. David knew how to kill predators ... sling)
- Jesus' version of being Messianic had a cost!
 - N.B. people found that very hard to get their heads round
 - A Christ who came to die (Peter!)
 - A King who came to serve and give his life as a ransom for many

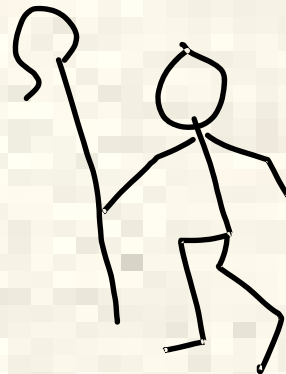


2. The shepherd versus the wolf: cost of death

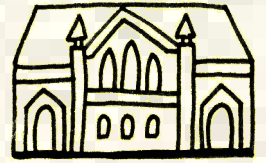


Q1: Why was there a cost?

- *v.13 because the shepherd **cares***
- *i.e. When the wolf comes ... the hired hand runs away ... he was only in it for the money*
 - N.B. People don't understand Jesus' love because they don't see the danger coming
 - A day of judgment ... a day of eternal reckoning
- Jesus saves from that by giving his life so that we might not die

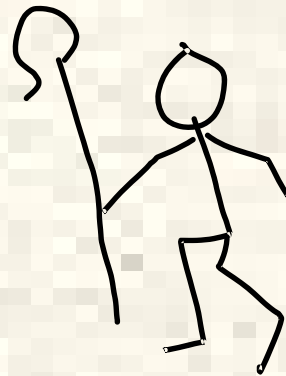


2. The shepherd versus the wolf: cost of death



Q2: What did his death achieve?

- 1. The salvation of the sheep
 - v.11,15 *“I lay down my life for the sheep”*
 - *If he had not laid down his life the sheep would be scattered, ravaged, destroyed (v.12)*
- The threat of death, judgment, ruin, destruction is totally removed by the effective death of the Shepherd
 - “my sin oh the bliss...” “no condemnation now I dread ...”



2. The shepherd versus the wolf: cost of death



Q2: What did his death achieve?

2. The enthusiastic approval of the Father

- v.17 my Father loves me
- v.18 my Father commanded me
- Jesus is not doing this on his own, or in opposition to his Father
- But obediently and willingly
 - e.g. the soldier who lost a limb / gave willingly
 - ==> the goodness and kindness of this shepherd



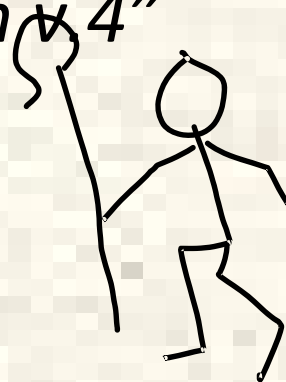
Jesus is the good shepherd



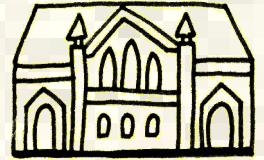
Conclusion:

Vs the thief:

- With a different intention:
 - *he comes not to diminish and ruin lives but to give life to the full*
 - *To lead us safely through life and be fed along the way*
- With a different rightness:
 - *Not to break-in to our lives but to gently call us. Not rapist but wooer.*
 - *“My sheep know my voice ... they follow him v 4”*
 - *==> have you heard his voice?*
 - *==> Will you follow this Shepherd?*



Jesus is the good shepherd



Vs the wolf:

– Facing the threat of the wolf he cares enough to lay down his life

- He achieves the complete salvation of the people who hear him ...no condemnation
- This is how we know *his love* ... “*while we were yet sinners Christ died for us*”

– He receives the enthusiasm of the Father

- “*the reason the father loves me ...*”
- “*therefore God highly exalted him*”
- Have you got a sense of how great Jesus is? How good he is?
- The Father loves this Jesus – do you?
- Listening to him will save your life.

