

**“Sheep to Shepherd”**

Message 6 in the series, “SoulShift”

Mark 6:30-44

**How to Be A Shepherd**

1. Become \_\_\_\_\_ of the sheep \_\_\_\_\_
  - Ask God to give you \_\_\_\_\_ for the sheep, especially for those who are “lost”
  
2. Use what you’ve \_\_\_\_\_ to meet their need
  
3. Decide that you will \_\_\_\_\_ the sheep
  - protect their \_\_\_\_\_
  - protect their \_\_\_\_\_
  - protect them from \_\_\_\_\_
  
- **You and I are responsible for one another’s spiritual growth.**

**The SoulShift Prayer**

Lord, may I walk in Your ways and reflect Your likeness to those around me. Give me a heart for those around me who are in need of Your grace. Help me believe even when I have not yet seen. May I be generous with every good gift you have given me. Help me turn off the noise of this world and listen for Your still small voice. Following You as my guide, equip me to lead others, influencing this world for Your Kingdom. Amen.

**Mark 6:34-41 (NIV)**

....<sup>34</sup> When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.<sup>35</sup> By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. “This is a remote place,” they said, “and it’s already very late.<sup>36</sup> **Send the people away** so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”<sup>37</sup> But he answered, **“You give them something to eat.”** They said to him, **“That would take more than half a year’s wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?”**<sup>38</sup> **“How many loaves do you have?”** he asked. **“Go and see.”** When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.”<sup>39</sup> Then Jesus directed them to have all the people **sit down in groups** on the green grass.<sup>40</sup> So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties.<sup>41</sup> Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. **Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people....**

**FOR GROW GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

1. Do a little research – perhaps online – as to what specifically shepherds do in taking care of sheep. Share some of what you learn. What surprised you?
2. The Apostle Paul “discipled” Timothy to be a “Shepherd.” Read Philippians 2:19-24. What qualities did Paul use to describe Timothy?
3. Read Ezekiel 34:11-16. How does God describe Himself as a Shepherd?
4. Thinking metaphorically, how might God use you as a “shepherd” to other people in the church or community? What scares you about that idea? What excites you about it?
5. As you’ve listened to the message or as you read the Scripture passages, what is God bringing to your mind and heart? What do you want to do about it?