



Life Group Study Notes – 13 September 2026

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Following the Good Shepherd – John chapter 10:1-21

Matthew Henry, a well-known theologian, teaches that John 10 reveals Jesus as the Good Shepherd who knows His sheep personally, calls them by name, and gathers them safely into His fold. In this passage, the sheep pen represents the security, order, and privilege of belonging to Christ and being under the care of His church. He emphasises that Christ gathers His people so they may be fed, guided, and protected under His care. Yet the Shepherd does not keep His flock shut in; He leads them out because His voice is trustworthy and His guidance is perfect. Wherever He goes, the sheep may follow without fear, for He goes before them, making the way safe. The Christian life is not shaped by self-directed wandering **but by** hearing, trusting, and following the Shepherd. Our safety is in staying near Him; our obedience and witness flow from walking in the path He sets before us.

Look Back – Remembering Christ's Leading

- Jesus leading you out — Think of a moment when Jesus nudged you out of comfort and into obedience. What did that experience show you about His care as the Good Shepherd?
- Staying in the pen — Can you recall a time when you sensed Jesus calling you forward but chose to stay where it felt safe? How might your faith have grown if you had followed?

Look Within – Hearing and Responding to His Voice

- Comfort zones — What parts of your faith feel familiar and secure, yet may be holding you back from following Jesus more fully?
- Current calling — Where do you sense Jesus calling you to obey Him right now, even if it means stepping into unfamiliar territory?

Look Around – Seeing the Flock Move Together

- Church discernment — How is our church helping people recognise the Shepherd's voice and follow Him into the paddock of obedience and mission?
- Examples of faith — Who in our church have you seen stepping out in faith recently, and what does their example teach you about following Jesus?

Look Forward – Following the Shepherd This Week

- One step of obedience — What is one specific step of obedience or mission you can take this week to follow Jesus out of the pen?
- A person to serve — Who is one person Jesus may be calling you to speak to, serve, or encourage this week?



Life Group Study Notes – 20 September 2026

Feels Like Home: Multitude

This chapter shows that God's church is a **multitude**—a diverse, worldwide people gathered by His grace. Hill points to *Revelation 7:9*, where believers from every nation and language stand together before Christ, fulfilling God's long-planned vision of unified worship seen in *Psalms 122:3–4*. In Christ, these diverse people become one (Galatians 3:28), joining the heavenly assembly described in *Hebrews 12:22–24*. Every local church gathering is a small foretaste of the final, perfected community God will dwell with forever (*Revelation 21:2–3*). Hill invites us to rejoice in this global family and to **come belong to the people God is gathering from every corner of the earth**.

Look Back

Reflecting on how God has shown you the beauty of His worldwide people.

- **Past experiences of diversity** — When have you personally seen or experienced the beauty of God's diverse people, a glimpse of the multitude in *Revelation 7:9*?
- **Acts 9:31** — Read Acts 9:31. In what sense does this verse describe the church, and how have you seen God give peace, strength, or growth to His people?

Look Inside

Examining your own heart toward God's worldwide family.

- **Unity in Christ** — Galatians 3:28 says we are “all one in Christ.” What attitudes or assumptions in your own heart make unity across differences difficult?
- **Heavenly identity** — Hebrews 12:22–24 describes believers as part of a heavenly assembly. How does this truth challenge or encourage your sense of belonging?

Look Around

Seeing the multitude God is gathering in your local church and beyond.

- **Local foretaste** — Where do you see your local church reflecting the multitude God is gathering—different backgrounds, stories, or gifts united in worship?
- Read Proverbs 14:28 and 2 Corinthians 8:23. How do these verses show that Jesus is honoured and glorified when many people belong to Him?

Look Forward

Anticipating the future God is preparing for His people.

- Revelation 21:2–3 shows God living with His people forever. How does this future hope change the way you see your church right now?
- **Growing love for the multitude** — What steps could you take to grow in love, welcome, and unity as part of the worldwide multitude God is gathering?