



## Midweek Meditation



*"I am the Good Shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me, and I lay down My life for the sheep." John 10:14, 15b*

A little boy had tears in his eyes after reciting the 23rd Psalm with the congregation. "What's the matter?" his mother whispered. "Why do we say, 'The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want?'" he responded, "I do want Him. I love Jesus. Why wouldn't I want Him?" Those tears were tears of faith. They showed his mother how dear Jesus was to her little boy.

Do we ever cry such tears? Or do we instead, at times, show just the opposite? Do we live as though Jesus is the Shepherd we do not want? Sometimes I show others by how I live that I much prefer being my own shepherd. Yet, this is not who you and I are. You and I are Jesus' sheep even though we often act like we are not. Our Shepherd is good because He died for sinful sheep like us and because He seeks straying sheep like us. There are no perfect sheep within Jesus' sheepfold. But all His sheep are forgiven sheep.

*Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*