

## 2020.10.18 Sunday Sermon <Jesus Leads Us>

### **Psalm 95:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

<sup>7</sup> for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Today, if only you would hear his voice,

### **John 10:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> "Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

### **\*Image of Shepherd and Sheep**

- **Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

<sup>3</sup> He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake....

<sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

- **John 10:3**

<sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

- When we look at the image of shepherd and sheep, we are reminded of Psalm 23 where David proclaimed the Lord is his shepherd. In John 10, we see how the Lord our shepherd has sent his one and only son to lead His people. Let us look closely on how Jesus **LEADS**.

### **1. Love (Image of Jesus and His Heart)**

- **Isaiah 49:16**

*See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.*

We read through Isaiah 49, and we know that the Lord has all of us engraved in the palms of His hands. As we look at Jesus through New Testament, we can see that we are also engraved in His heart.

- **Image of Destroyed Airplane**

On October 13th, there was a report of a couple who died of airplane crash. They were both doctors and were coming back home after providing medical services. When the plane crashed, everyone died except for the couple's 18 months old infant. The infant was able to live because the mother held the baby to her heart.

In difficult times, Jesus is always watching us and He has our names pierced in His heart. His love is far more greater than that of mother's love.

- **Galatians 2:20**

*I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me*

As we see in above verse, Paul has gone through so much in his life. Yet he knows that Jesus loves him and that love was able to guide him to the Lord.

- Hymn - "Jesus Loves Me" was written by Anna Bartlett Warner and was composed by William Batchelder Bradbury.

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.*

*Jesus loves me he who died heaven's gate to open wide.  
He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in.*

As we sing this hymn, we know how much Jesus Christ loves us. He is our shepherd that leads us to our Lord who is in Heaven above.

## **2. Empathy (Image of Jesus Holding Mary in Tears)**

- **Hebrews 4:15**

*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin.*

- **Isaiah 53:5**

*But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.*

As we read through both verses from Hebrews and Isaiah, we know that our Lord and Christ Jesus know what we are going through and understand the state we are in.

- **Romans 12:15**

*Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.*

As human beings, we have many complex emotions. One of them is called schadenfreude. This is where rather than feeling sympathy toward someone's misfortune, it evokes joyful feelings that take pleasure from watching someone fail. This emotion is displayed more in children than adults. However, adults also experience schadenfreude, although generally they conceal it.

Through Romans 12:15 - Jesus teaches us to be empathic to those in pain, and when others are in joy, be happy for them. Because this is exactly what Jesus does for us.

- Many times I receive calls from congregation members requesting for prayers. These prayer requests are for their children or with issues on health, work, etc. During our family worship on Friday, I started to pray for them and I could feel the pain the members were going through. I realized Jesus must feel the same pain all of them are feeling right now.

## **3. Attitude (Image of Jesus Washing the Disciples' Feet)**

- Jesus Christ is the son of our creator and almighty Lord. Yet He is able to kneel down and wash the feet of His disciples.

**Matthew 23:11-12** (Teachings During His Last Days)

<sup>11</sup> *The greatest among you will be your servant.* <sup>12</sup> *For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.*

**Matthew 11:29** (Teachings in the Beginning)

<sup>29</sup> *Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.*

As we read through both verses in Matthew, He is constantly teaching us to have humility for others and be humble.

Nowadays, we see the news and watch/hear about discrimination around the world, and as immigrants we experienced these discrimination and felt great pain. My brothers and sisters, know that those who discriminate, they are actually providing pain to others.

- Image of Biden and Trump - 2020 Presidential Candidates
  - I ask the Lord to select the one who has humility like Jesus Christ. I ask both candidates the following...  
**Philippians 2:5** *In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:*

- Hymn called *If I Come to Jesus* was written by Fanny J. Crosby.

*If I come to Jesus, He will make me glad;  
He will give me pleasure when my heart is sad.*

*If I come to Jesus, Happy I shall be.  
He is gently calling little ones like me.*

*If I come to Jesus, He will hear my prayer;  
He will love me dearly, He my sins did bear.*

*If I come to Jesus, He will take my hand,  
He will kindly lead me to a better land.*

*There with happy children, Robed in snowy white,  
I shall see my Savior In that world so bright.*

Even through her darkest moments due to her health, Jesus led her to the right path to the Lord Father.

#### 4. Devotion (Image of Jesus Christ on the Cross)

- **Hebrews 3:2**

*He was faithful to the one who appointed him, just as Moses was faithful in all God's house.*

##### **John 13:1**

*It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.*

##### **Matthew 28:20**

*and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

As we read through these verses, we learn how Jesus Christ will watch over us till the last day.

- **Psalms 48:14**

*For this God is our God forever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end.*

##### **Psalms 23:6**

*Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

Who will watch over us till the end...forever and ever? Only Jesus Christ will lead and guide us till the end.

- John Henry Newman (21 February 1801 – 11 August 1890) was an English theologian and poet, first an Anglican priest and was an important figure in the religious history of England in the 19th century.

"Lead, Kindly Light" is a hymn with words written in 1833 by Saint John Henry Newman as a poem titled "The Pillar of the Cloud", which was first published in the *British Magazine* in 1834.

As a young priest, Newman became sick while in Italy and was unable to travel for almost three weeks. After getting his health back, they started their journey back to England. While on water, John noticed the boat wasn't moving. He asked the sailor to speed but the sailor response was, "I cannot do the work that only the Lord can do. The Lord will need to send the wind for us to move fast."

As John was becoming more anxious in the boat, he asked the sailor again to speed. The sailor responded, "If the Lord sends the wind tonight, we will be able to follow the stars and arrive at your destination." The sailor had full faith in the Lord. After seeing the sailor's faith, John wrote the words that become a famous hymn.

*Lead, Kindly Light, amidst th'encircling gloom,  
Lead Thou me on! The night is dark, and I am far from home,  
Lead Thou me on! Keep Thou my feet; I do not ask to see  
The distant scene; one step enough for me.*

*I was not ever thus, nor prayed that Thou  
Shouldst lead me on; I loved to choose and see my path; but now  
Lead Thou me on! I loved the garish day, and, spite of fears,  
Pride ruled my will. Remember not past years!*

*So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still  
Will lead me on. O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till  
The night is gone, And with the morn those angel faces smile,  
Which I have loved long since, and lost awhile!*

*Meantime, along the narrow rugged path,  
Thyself hast trod, Lead, Saviour, lead me home in childlike faith,  
Home to my God. To rest forever after earthly strife  
In the calm light of everlasting life.*

Just like the lyrics of this hymn, let us have the strong faith in our Lord and Jesus Christ till the end of our days.

#### <In Summary - Jesus LEADS Us>

1. With His Love where our names are placed in His Heart
2. With His Empathy to understand and feel what we are going through
3. With His Attitude that is filled with humility
4. With His Devotion that continues on till the end of the day

#### <Prayer>

Let us pray as we are currently two weeks before the presidential election.  
Let us ask for a leader who is more like Jesus Christ.  
Let us ask the Lord and Jesus Christ to be with us, our children, and our families.

Our Lord is the shepherd who will guide us and lead us to the green pasture.  
Although we are filled with sins and weaknesses, he will accept us and forgive us with His Grace.  
Our Lord, Our Shepherd will lead us, hear our prayers, and guide us forever.