

# Next Level **Leader's Guide**

*"I have come that they might have life and have it to the full!"*  
John 10:10

## **So why settle for average?**

Have the students answer "Whenever you think of sheep, what comes to mind?" in the bubbles provided for them.

Then...

Have your students read the entire section of John 10:1-15.

After reading John 10:1-15 have your students fill-in the blank of each section. Now that you've read that... aren't you glad you did? I think it's a pretty a good story one that's full of promises for you and me. Let's take a look at it closer. Fill in the blanks according to John 10.

## **The Hired-Hand:**

The hired-hand is good for something but they are not the Shepherd. The hired-hand leaves when his Life is at stake. He does not Lead the sheep. He does not protect the sheep, instead he runs away when trouble comes to the Flock.

## *The Sheep:*

We are the sheep. We are the ones that the Shepherd came to Save. We follow the Shepherd when we hear his Voice. The sheep runs away from a stranger because they do not know his Voice. The Shepherd wants to give the very best to his flock; because of the Shepherd the sheep will have a very Full life.

## **THE SHEPHERD:**

Christ is the Shepherd. He is the Good Shepherd. He enters the sheep pen through the Gate and does not climb in some other way. He leads the way for the sheep making sure that there is no harm done to them. He is willing to fight for the sheep and even willing to Give - up his Own Life for them.

## *The Promise:*

I have come that you might have life and have it to the full! – Christ.

The Shepherd promises to give the very best to his Sheep he not only gives them food, protection, shelter, and leadership but he also promises the best kind of life.

## Close it up:

Close it up with your students by challenging them to live beyond average, to live extraordinary lives for God. Ask them what life would look like if it were centered in Christ. Ask if they are willing to really follow regardless of what others may say or do or think of them. This may be a place where you can talk to them about your life and how God has made it complete. Share your life with your students.

## *So what's the catch?*

There is no catch. All the Shepherd wants from the sheep is to save them. He has made the decision to lay down his life and to take it up again. The Shepherd is in total control. He desperately wants to give the best to his sheep. He wants deeply to give the very best to you and his church. Are you willing to follow him? Are you willing to live a life that is beyond average and ordinary to one that is amazing and complete?

## What next?

The following devotions will address ways in which we can live lives that reflect we belong to the Good Shepherd. Because we belong to him, we will be like him. The Good Shepherd makes it possible for us to live up to the Next Level.