

dressed in the garb of familiarity.

Jesus calls us by name because He knows us so well. That's the picture we get in John 10. When an oriental shepherd was with the same flock for many years, he developed a close relationship with each animal. He would give them descriptive names like "Brown-leg" or "Black-ear." And when he called them, they responded to his voice.

So too, when Jesus asks us to follow and obey Him, His call comes with the promise of the protection, guidance, sustenance, and rest that we need at that time in our lives. His call is suited to our needs because He knows us intimately. He knows us on a first-name basis. --DJD

*My Shepherd is the Lord who knows my needs,
And I am blest;
By quiet streams, in pastures green, He leads
And makes me rest. --Psalter*

**You're not just a number computers can trace;
Christ knows your need, your name, and your face.**



Central Mountains Baptist Church

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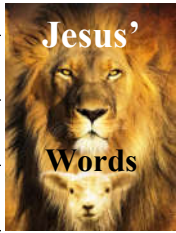
On a First-Name Basis

He calls His own sheep by name and leads them out. --John 10:3

Whenever I visit the Korean Presbyterian Church in my home city, I notice that the people seldom refer to one another by their first name. They speak formally of each other and to each other--Mr. Kim, Mr. Pyen, Mrs. Hugh. One day I asked Mr. Pyen about this custom. He replied, "Only when we know people intimately do we use their first name."

Perhaps that's why I responded negatively when the head of a religious organisation wrote me asking for my financial support. He began, "Dear Dennis," and signed his letter, "Bob." It was an impersonal form letter





Words to Calm Our Souls I

(John 20:31) but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.



In John 10, the chapter about the Good Shepherd, we find four statements to calm our souls:

1. We are _____ by the _____ of the Good Shepherd, verse 22



(Daniel 11:31) And forces shall be mustered by him, and they shall defile the sanctuary fortress; then they shall take away the daily sacrifices, and place there the abomination of desolation.

(Matthew 24:15-16) "Therefore when you see the 'ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), [16] "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

2. We are _____ by the _____ of the Good Shepherd,

(1 Corinthians 11:14) Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a dishonor to him?

(Isaiah 50:6) I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.

(Isaiah 53:2) . . . He has no form or comeliness; And when we see Him, There is no beauty that we should desire Him.

There are three descriptions of the Good Shepherd:

#1. He is _____ with the Father, verse 15, 17, 30,



(Psalms 23:1-6) . . . The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. [2] He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. [3] He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. [4] Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. [5] You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. [6] Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

Gloria Gaither

#2. He gives His _____ for the _____, verses 2, 1, 7, 9, 28-29, 11, 8, 10, 12-13, 15, 17-18

(Hebrews 3:12-13) Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; [13] but exhort one another daily, while it is called "TODAY," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.

(Romans 8:31-32) What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? [32] He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

(Romans 8:35) Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

(Romans 8:38-39) For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, [39] nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



George H. Morrison