DESTINY TRAINING LEVEL 1
MODULE 1
CLASS 01

JESUS IS MY SHEPHERD

Biblical Reference: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. (Psalm 23:1).

I. A NOTE TO THE STUDENT

The Bible shares with us that God likens Himself as our shepherd (Isaiah 40:11). It also expresses that God has the characteristics of a shepherd and that we are His sheep. Jesus gave a discourse of a shepherd in John 10:1-18. We need to keep in mind that the sheep will follow the shepherd and place their trust in him.

In the Old Testament as well as the New Testament, God sees Himself as our Shepherd and we need to see ourselves the way God sees us as His sheep. God never asked His sheep to protect and provide for themselves but to place their trust in Him. To trust Him at His word and to depend upon His finished work at the cross. All provisions and protection has been already provided for His sheep. God initiated it and as sheep, we are the recipients of His grace. All we need to do is to follow Him.

II. CLASS OBJECTIVES

1. To understand what is a Shepherd according to the word.
2. To recognize Jesus as our Good, Great, and Chief Shepherd.
3. To understand the characteristics of a Shepherd.

III. INTRODUCTION

Define Shepherd: This word is used figuratively to represent the relation of God to His people. Sometimes the word “pastor” is used instead. A shepherd is a person who tends, herds, feeds and protects the sheep. They are there to guide & direct the sheep.

IV. LESSON: JESUS IS MY SHEPHERD

A. The Good Shepherd

<u>John 10:11, 14 (NIV)</u>
I am the good Shepherd. The good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep… I am the good Shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am know by My own.

1. Just as the future of a child depends on the guidance of their parents, the destiny of the sheep depends on the guidance of their shepherd. Placing ourselves under the covering and direction of Jesus as our shepherd is the best decision we can make, because nobody can love us more than He.

2. We can only become sheep in His pasture through faith in Christ, and that faith will bring us protection and security.

   John 10:27-28 (NIV)
   My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of My hand.

B. The Great Shepherd

Hebrews 13:20-21 (NKJV)
Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

1. Jesus is the great Shepherd who restored our relationship with our heavenly Father through the shedding of His own blood on the cross for our sins.

2. The fact that Jesus is the great Shepherd means He possess all power, all authority, all virtue, all ability to bring us to a place of spiritual maturity so that we may be empowered to do His will.

C. The Chief Shepherd

1 Peter 5:2-4 (NKJV)
Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

1. Jesus is our Chief Shepherd. And God has raised up pastors to multiply the shepherd's care. The authority that has been entrusted to pastors and leaders are for your edification and not destruction. They are there to help build you up in your faith.

2. The ultimate heart of the shepherd is to care for God's people and nurture them with the word of God until they come to a place of spiritual maturity.

D. Characteristics of Jesus our Shepherd

1. He loves His sheep.

2. He cares for His sheep.

3. He lays down His life for them.

4. He knows His sheep.

5. He protects His sheep.

6. He provides for His sheep.

7. He feeds His sheep.

8. He leads and guides His sheep.

9. He gives His sheep abundant life.

E. The Lord Hears our Prayers

1. We pray to our Heavenly Father in the name of Jesus.

2. For our joy to be full, God wants to hear and answer our prayers.

   John 16:23-24 (NKJV)
   23 "And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. **24** Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

3. We communicate with God through our prayers.

F. There is No One Else Like Jesus

1. There's no other person who impacted the whole world throughout the ages other than Jesus Christ. All that He had done and what He has accomplished there are no other person who can be compared to Him.

2. He is our wonderful Creator who had created everything that exists.

   John 1:1-3 (NKJV)
   1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was in the beginning with God. **3** All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

3. He was the image of God to mankind.

   Colossians 1:15-17 (NKJV)
   15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. **16** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. **17** And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

VI. CONCLUSION

As Christians, we possess an extraordinary treasure. We know that Jesus is the Word of God; the Word who was from the beginning and became man. We know and believe that in Him was the life that He is the light of the world and that whoever follows Him will not walk in darkness. He is the Break of Life. Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Him even though he is dead; Christ will resurrect him and bring him to life.

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