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MAHDERE-SEBEHAT LEDETA LEMARIAM
ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX
TEWAHEDO CHURCH



**Lessons are prepared by Ledeta LeMariam
Sunday School
Alexandria, Virginia**

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In the name of the
Father, and the Son, and
the Holy Spirit, one God.
Amen.



Begin with the Lord's prayer

Our Lord and Savior, our King and God, we thank you for gathering us here to stand before you to call on your Holy Name.

Heavenly Father, teach us to trust You in everything we do. Our God open our eyes, ears, hearts and minds that we may hear Your Word, keep it in our hearts and tell our friends about your glory and honor.

Bless all the children and keep them safe. Hear us when we humbly and thankfully pray to you.

Our Father, who art in heaven

Hallowed be thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive us our trespasses

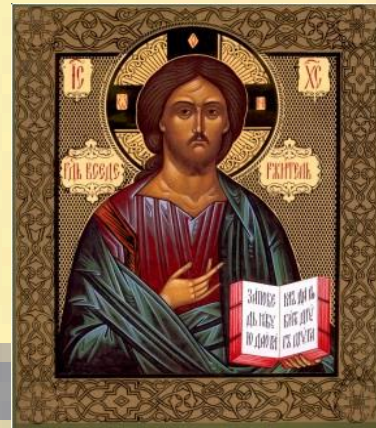
As we forgive those who trespass against us

And lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from the evil one

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the

Glory. Forever, Amen.



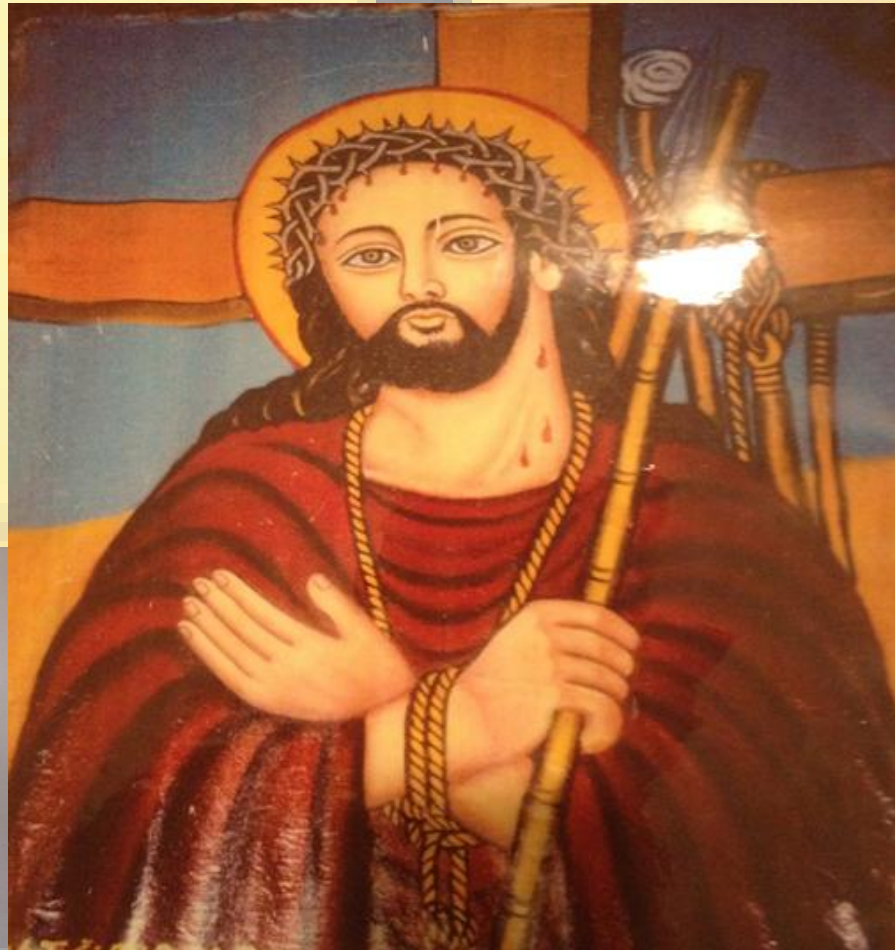
O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, “Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.” True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Holy Mary, the God-bearer, pray that your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, may forgive us our sins. Amen.



Say The Jesus Prayer 3 times

**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
have mercy on me, a sinner.**

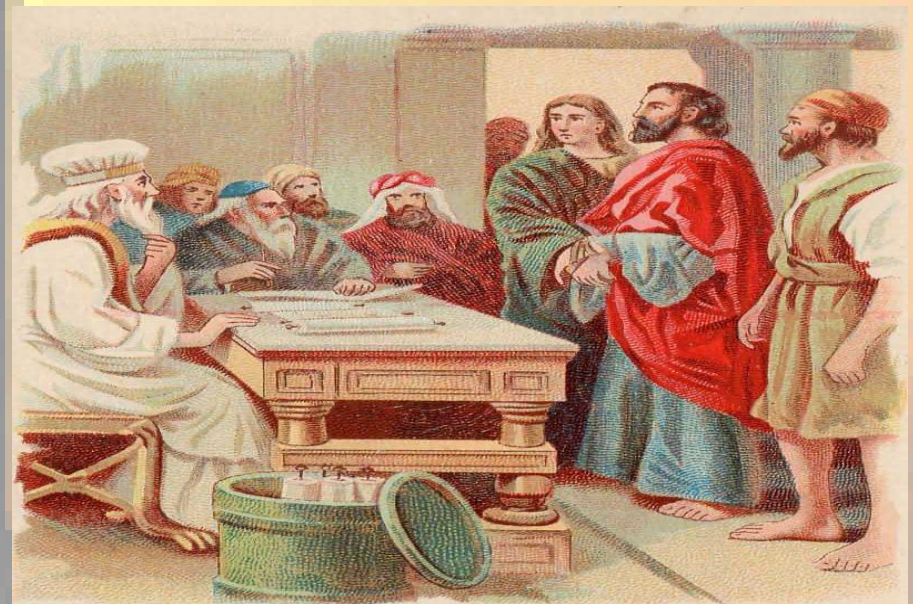
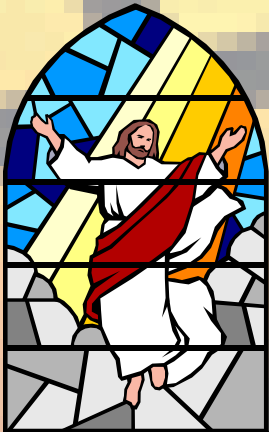


MEMORY VERSE

**Can anyone tell me
last week's
memory verse???**

Recite Last week's memory verse

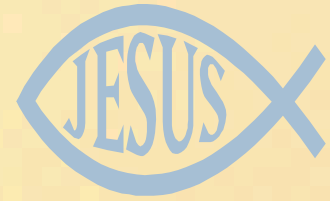
**“For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved”
(Acts 4:12)**



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THE BOLDNESS OF PETER AND JOHN.
Acts 4: 1-14.
**THERE IS NONE OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN GIVEN
AMONG MEN, WHEREBY WE MUST BE SAVED.**

Review



1. What are the names of the two apostles?
 - *Peter and John*
2. Who used to sit at the gate of the temple? Why?
 - *The lame man begging*
3. What did the two apostles give him?
 - *Not money, but a miracle of healing in the name of Jesus Christ*
4. Why did the man stick with them?
 - *He was thankful and so happy to be healed.*

Class Covenant

I will keep my  on my teacher,
my  in control,
my s on God's Word;
knowing God is my goal.

The Lord is a Good Shepherd



June 29, 2014

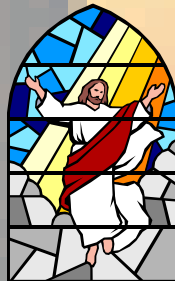
Memorize today's Verse

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want”.

(Psalms 23:1)



**Practice this verse
again during the
week.**



- **The shepherd is the man who tends sheep and moves them around from one grazing ground to another to feed them good grass and water.**
- **Although all the sheep would look alike for us, the shepherd sees them as individuals; every one of them has a personality of their own because God created them individually.**

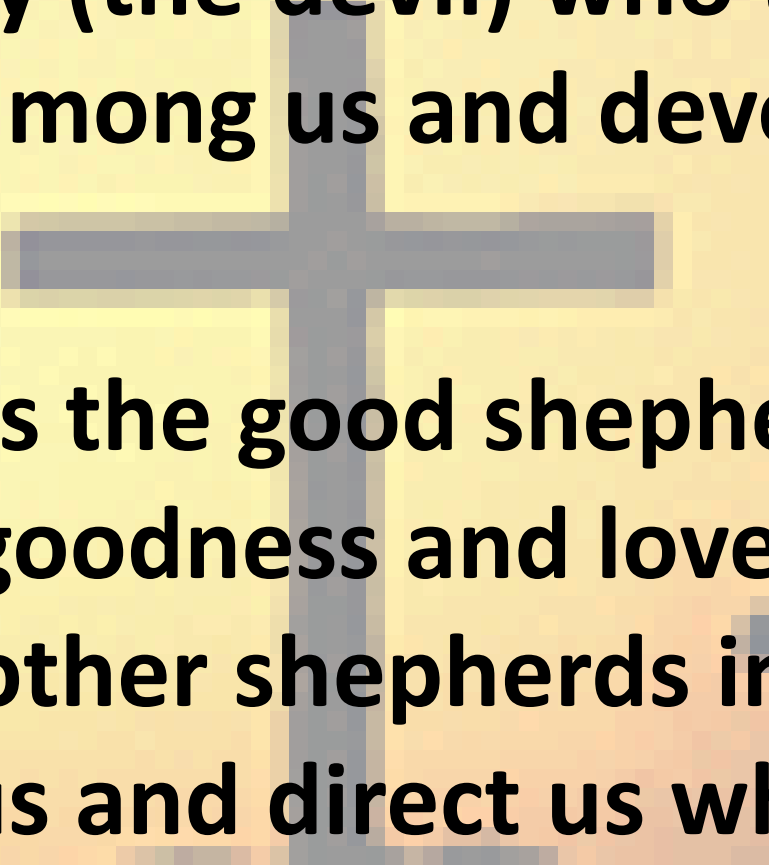
- **If the shepherd does not care about the sheep, they will scatter and get lost. The wolves will also eat them.**
- **The good shepherd will take care of the sheep; protect them from the wolves, and from hurting themselves.**
- **The shepherd knows every one of them and even gives them names.**

- **He tends to the sick and the weak and even carry the weakest on his shoulder to rest.**
- **The shepherd carries with him a strong staff and a long thin bamboo stick. He uses the staff to defend the sheep from the beasts, and the stick to tap the sheep that do not obey him and want to go astray.**

- **The sheep also follow the shepherd everywhere he leads them to and they recognize his voice when he calls on them.**
- **They don't follow anyone but their shepherd. They love him because he cares for them and their needs even though the shepherd taps them with his stick sometimes to keep them from doing the wrong things that can end up hurting them.**

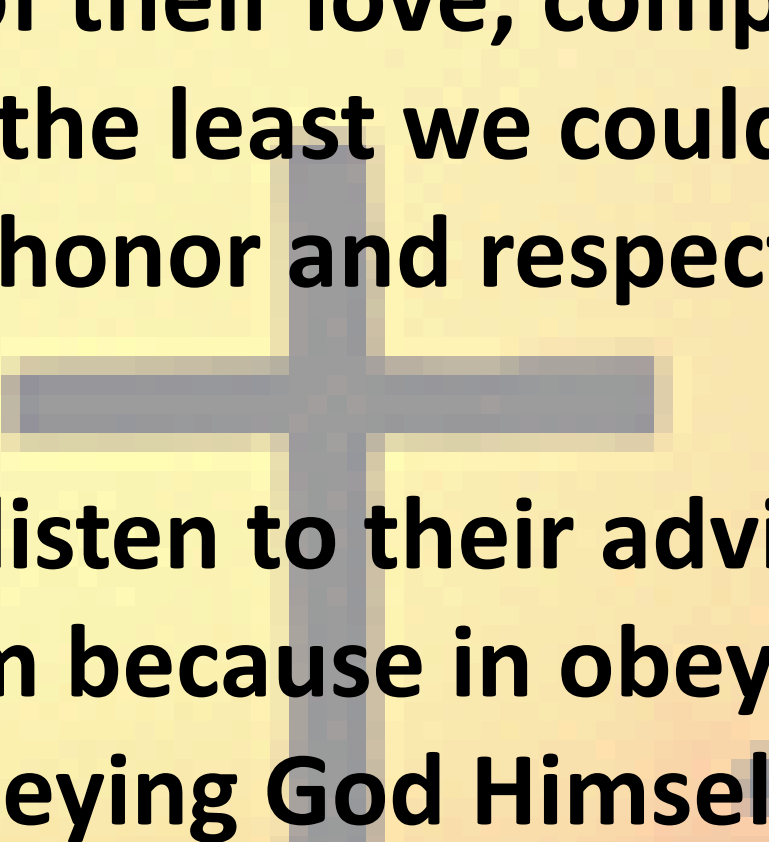
- **So, our Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd and we are the sheep. He takes care of us, feeds us the best food (His body) and the best drink (His blood).**
- **He sacrificed Himself on the Cross for us to save us from the wolf (the devil).**

- **He expects us to obey and follow His voice (in the Bible and the Church) and walk in His path, just as the sheep follow wherever their shepherd leads them.**
- **If we are weak He carries us on His shoulder, but if we don't obey, or if we go astray He uses His stick to bring us back to Him.**
- **But He never hurts us.**

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- **He uses His staff (the Cross) against our enemy (the devil) who tries to sneak in among us and devour us.**
 - **The Lord is the good shepherd, and from His goodness and love to us, He sends us other shepherds in our lives to guide us and direct us when we go astray.**

- **Our parents, our Sunday School Servants, our fathers of confession, our priests and our bishops are the shepherds in our life.**
- **God gave them power, knowledge, wisdom, and experience that they may have authority to help us in our lives and shepherd us as God would shepherd His own sheep.**

- **As our shepherds, they love us and attend to our needs both physical and spiritual. Our parents provide us with our food, drink, and clothing. They care for our health and well being.**
- **Our priests and bishops provide us with spiritual food, words of wisdom, and show us the true Christian principles that we should live our lives with.**

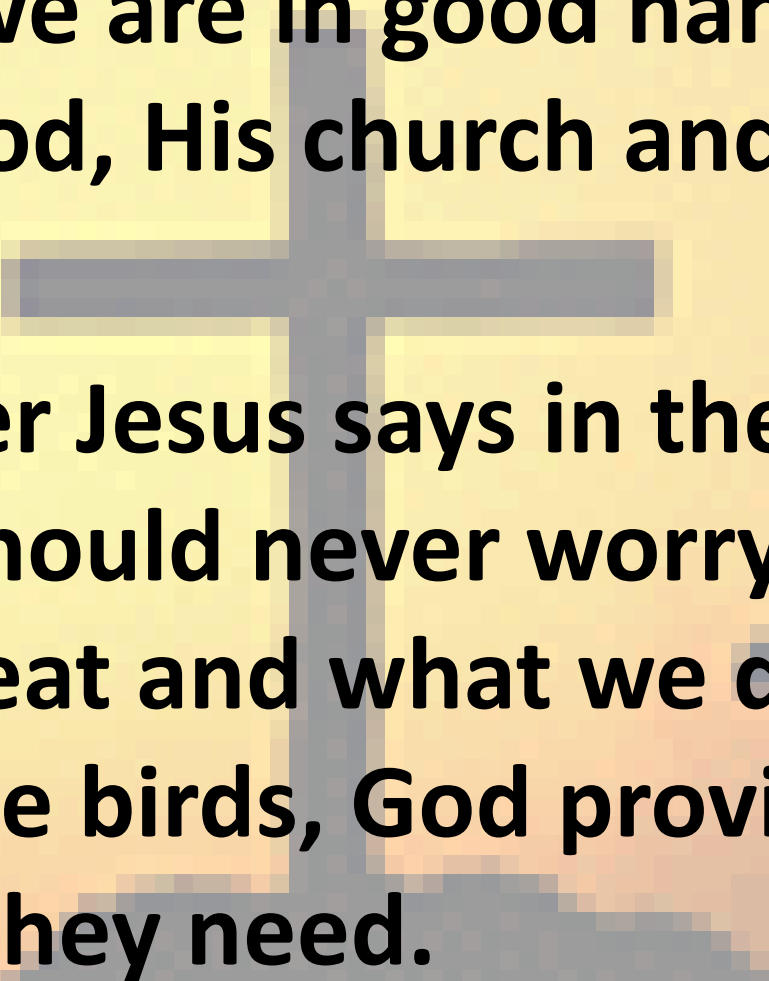
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- **Because of their love, compassion, and care, the least we could do is give them the honor and respect that they deserve.**
 - **We must listen to their advice and obey them because in obeying them we are obeying God Himself.**

- **My parents take care of my body needs since I was in the womb of my mother. They taught me how to live a good life and defended me. They carried me on their shoulders when I was a baby; spent endless nights next to my bed when I was sick and disciplined me when I misbehaved. They prayed for me and taught me how to pray and fast. They did all of that because they love me.**

- **God also sends me the Sunday School Servants who teach me how to sing, pray, read the bible, behave in the church, and congregate with other children.**
- **They tell me stories from the Bible, how to cling to good kids, and to avoid the wolves (bad friends). The bible says that bad friends corrupt and destroy the good children of God.**

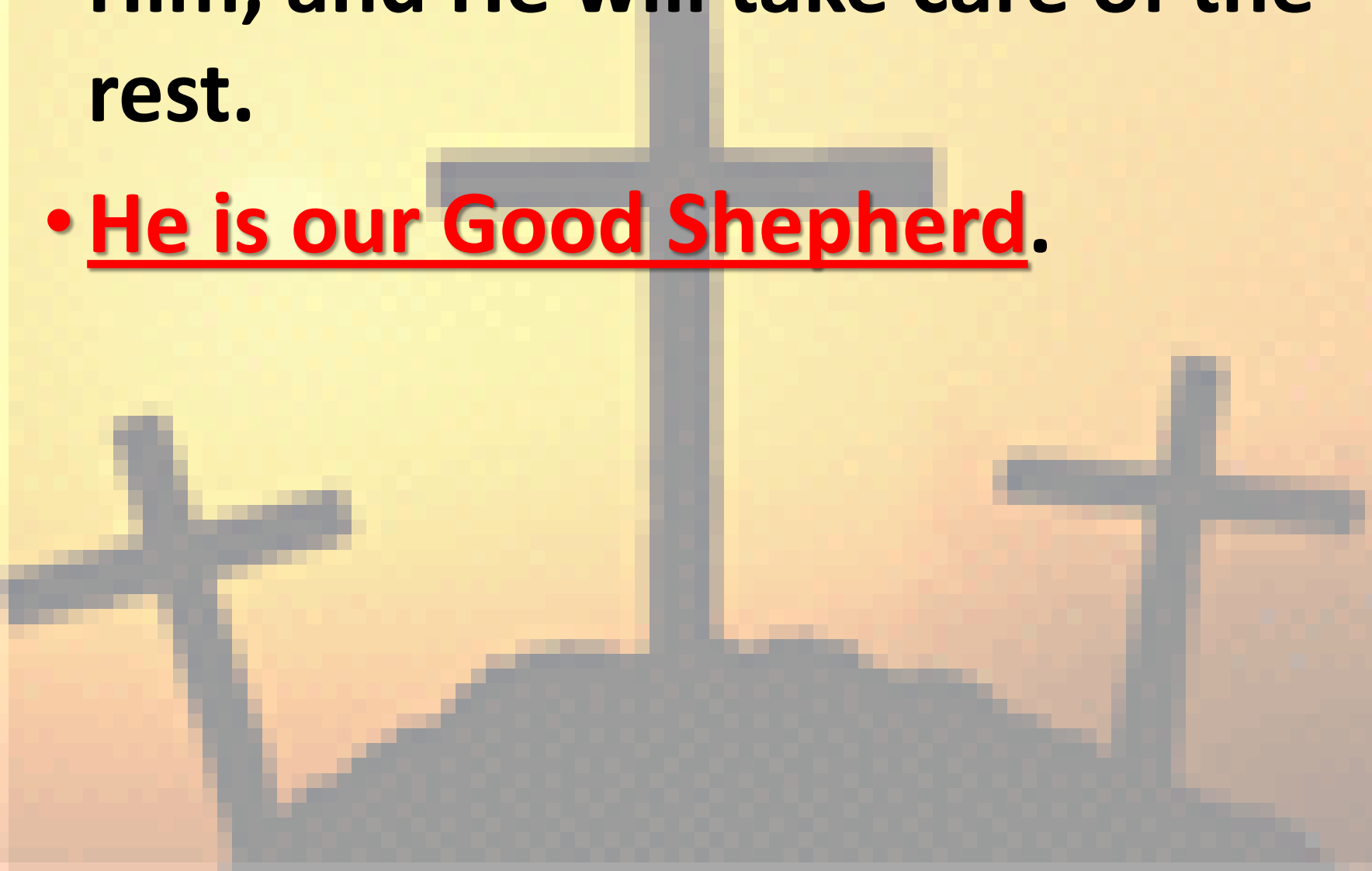
- **God also sends me His priests and bishops. They pray for me and take care of my spiritual needs like confession to cleanse me from my sins.**
- **When I was a baby they baptized me and anointed me with Myron (Holy Oil). They shepherd me now and will continue to shepherd me in the future.**

- **It is through them and their blessing that I receive communion.**
- **You see how God is so good. He is The Good Shepherd who takes care of all our needs and sends us other shepherds throughout our lives to take care of us.**

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- **That is why we should not worry at all because we are in good hands if we trust in God, His church and our parents.**
 - **Remember Jesus says in the Gospel that we should never worry about what we eat and what we drink. Look at the little birds, God provides them the food they need.**

- If God gives food and shelter for the little birds flying in the sky and to all of His creation, don't you think He will take mighty good care of you?
- After all, He even gave you His Only Begotten Son Jesus Christ to save you from the death of sin and Satan.
- Remember that our God is a caring God.

- **When things get bad, just trust in Him, and He will take care of the rest.**
- **He is our Good Shepherd.**



Conclusion

- **Trust in God and His love and care. He is the Good shepherd who will lead you all your life if you follow Him with all your heart and respect the people whom He sends to care for you.**

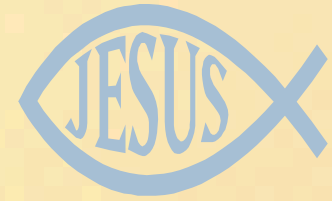


Movie Clip

Show a short movie clip about the story, if available.



Pop Quiz



1. Why does the shepherd carry both a staff and a stick?
2. Why does he carry a sheep on his shoulder sometimes?
3. What happens if a sheep decides to go on its own way and goes astray?
4. Does the shepherd know the sheep from one another?
5. Who is our Good Shepherd?
6. Whom does He shepherd us through?
7. What good things did our parents do for us when we were young and what do they continue to do for us now and until we get older?
8. What good things have our priests and bishops done for us?



May the love of God the **Father** and the grace of our Lord **Jesus Christ** and the fellowship of the **Holy Spirit** be with you.

All: And with your Spirit.

Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us and save us. Amen.

3 things we all can do to strengthen our relationship with God

1. Read the Holy Bible daily preferably when we get up in the morning. 5 minutes to start.
2. Partake Holy Communion regularly.
3. Remember God throughout the day. We can repeat short prayer such as “Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me.”

JESUS CHRIST

- “For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)





We are one in Christ



*“And you shall know
the truth, and the
truth shall make you
free.” John 8:32*

Any question?

Close with prayer.

