

# Becoming a *True* Shepherd ...the Audiobook

*Lessons from the flock ...*

## *Ponderings & Reflections*

### Chapter Two, Living Waters ...

- Are you becoming comfortable with the parallels between sheep, people and leadership? Where do you see similarities? Any differences?
- What struck you about a sheep's need for still (and clean) waters? See any parallels for your life?
- What are you thirsting for these days? Like sheep that have no ability to discern good water from bad, are you at risk of drinking the wrong kind of water? Looking through the rearview mirror of your life, can you see how the Good Shepherd has repeatedly led you to drink from clean, refreshing water and protected you from partaking of bad water?
- Are you starting to get a vision for how constant and comprehensive a good shepherd's care is for his flock? Also, how oblivious (and therefore perhaps thankless, unappreciative, presumptive) the sheep might be to His care? Does that give you a different perspective on God's Providence and constant care for your life? Ever thought about praising Him for the care that He has repeatedly brought and continues to bring into your life that you are unaware of?
- Jesus, the Good Shepherd, sees us as His sheep (John 23). Ever thought about how naïve, arrogant, and dense it is to feel that (we) sheep really can take care of most aspects of our life ourselves? That we really only need the Good Shepherd's caring intervention occasionally or periodically? To falsely conclude that there are a goodly number of things in my life that I can take care of myself, thank you!? From what you know about sheep so far, what is it that sheep are capable of taking care of on their own? When do they not need the shepherd's constant care? See any implications for your prayer life?
- Has your life been downward focused too long? Your nose too close to the ground (the grindstone)? Might you have picked up some parasites that are irritating your (spiritual) eyes and nose (ability to discerningly smell right from wrong) and thus causing you to be unable to fully rest (in Him)?
- What does it take for you to be willing to lie down in His green pastures?
- Are you open to having your shepherd(s) take the parasites out of your nostrils and tear ducts as well as the leeches that can sometimes get lodged in your throat? What implications come with that realization?