

Stay Close to the Shepherd

(<https://www.harvest.org/devotions-and-blogs/daily-devotions/2018-02-10>)

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all.—Isaiah 53:6

It's interesting that on more than one occasion, the Bible compares Christians to sheep. I can't say that I'm really happy with that, but I have to live with it. Sheep, after all, are not the most intelligent animals God put on Earth.

I would be happier if God had compared us to dolphins. They are intelligent animals. I once met someone who trained dolphins, and I asked him, "Are dolphins really as intelligent as it seems?"

He said, "In some ways, yes, and in some ways, no. They are very intelligent in many ways, because you can put a symbol on a sign, and a dolphin can read that symbol and understand what it means." That is amazing to me.

But God didn't compare us to dolphins; He compared us to sheep. Sheep are easily spooked. They are vulnerable. They have no defense mechanisms to speak of. They can't run very fast. They are in constant need of care and attention. They have this horrible tendency to follow each other, even it means their own death. It has been documented that one sheep will walk off of a cliff, and the others will just follow.

The Bible says, "All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own" (Isaiah 53:6). Think about how many people have bought into the same lies, generation after generation. People fall into the same junk, the same addiction, and the same traps again and again. Maybe Satan figures, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it. Just keep reeling them in."

We are like sheep. That's a fact. The question is will you be a smart sheep or a dumb one? I want to stay close to the Shepherd. That's where we all need to be.

News and Notes

- Please join us for family fun night this Saturday at 6:00. There will be food and fun. If you have an idea for a game night please let Shannon know.
- We will have a family picture day Sunday, March 11. These pictures are for the new directory. Receive a **free** 8x10 portrait, a printed directory, and a mobile directory just for having your picture taken. See Shannon to register.
- There will be a tri-state health churches workshop March 16-17 at the Goodland Church of Christ in Goodland KS. There is a flier on the board in the back.
- If you have a prayer request you would like added please fill out the prayer request card in the pocket of the seat in front of you or email prayer@scottsbluffchurchofchrist.org.

Birthdays

Tina Rudy	02/03	Sonie Iversen	02/29
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If you birthday has been inadvertently left off this list please let Shannon know.

Those Serving

2/11/2018

Opening Prayer	Gary
Song Leader	Chris
Scripture Reader	Jeremy
Closing Prayer	Shane
Devotion:	Prayer

Announcements: Shane

Table: West	Tom
Center	Gary
East	Jay

Preacher: Joe

Song Leader: Shane

2/18/2018

Opening Prayer	Tim
Song Leader	Tom
Scripture Reader	Shane
Closing Prayer	Tim
Devotion:	Tom

Announcements: Chris

Table: West	Gary
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Center Jay

East Shane

Preacher: Joe

Song Leader: Jay