



Madison Baptist Association

“Assisting churches in fulfilling their mission, and providing them opportunities for fellowship and to work together in advancing the kingdom of God”

THURSDAY,
JULY
13,
2017

John 10, along with Psalm 23, are two of my favorite chapters in the Bible for they portray the Lord as our shepherd. Jesus begins chapter 10 with the statement, “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is a shepherd of the sheep.” (v. 1-2) In Jesus’ day, sheep could be herded into a walled enclosure with no roof; open to the sky. This served to keep the sheep together and provided them protection from wild animals. Several flocks of sheep could be kept together, but the individual sheep knew the voice of their shepherd and would follow him out of the enclosure if he called. The shepherd would be allowed by the doorkeeper to enter the sheepfold through the door, while a thief or robber might climb the wall to reach the sheep with bad intent. There was only one door, one entrance into the sheepfold, which was guarded by the doorkeeper. Jesus applies this teaching in John 10 to Himself. First, He says in verse 7, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep.” He reiterates in verse 9 that He is the door to the sheepfold. What does this tell us about Jesus? As the door, Jesus is the one and only way of entrance into the sheepfold. Jesus is the one and only way of salvation. Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.” (John 14:6) The Bible says, “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12) Thus, it is clear that there are not multiple ways to attain salvation and go to heaven. There is just one way, and that way is through Jesus Christ. He alone, on the cross, paid the price for our sins and offers forgiveness of sin and eternal/abundant life to anyone who repents of their sin and embraces Him as Savior and Lord. There is only one door into the sheepfold, and Jesus is that door. Have you stepped through the open door?

Secondly, Jesus applies this text to Himself by stating that He is “the good shepherd.” (v. 11,14) As the shepherd of God’s sheep, He is concerned about all of His sheep. A “hired hand” will flee in times of danger and not stay to protect the sheep. This is because a hireling is paid to watch the sheep but is not really concerned about the sheep. A hireling is not a shepherd. But Jesus Christ, the good shepherd, cares for the sheep and protects them. In what ways has He cared for you? How has He protected you from danger or disaster? It has been my privilege to serve on various church staffs from 1979-2012, primarily as a Senior Pastor. I saw a big part of my job as being the shepherd of the sheep that God had entrusted to me. This involved knowing, loving, feeding, tending, and leading the sheep. Jesus is the good shepherd, the Chief Shepherd (I Pet. 5:4), and I served as the under shepherd. An important ministry of pastors today is that of being a loving shepherd to the


Church	Dates	Time	Program	Other Info
Brownsboro Baptist Church	7/17 - 21	6:15 - 8:45 PM	Galactic Starveyors	
Charity Baptist Church	7/24 - 26	6:00 - 8:30 PM	Galactic Starveyors	
Galilee Baptist	7/19 - 21	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Campout (S’more Jesus)	7/15 - Kickoff from 10 AM to 1 PM
House of Hope and Restoration	7/26 - 28		Galactic Starveyors	
Owens Cross Roads Baptist Ch	7/22	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Galactic Starveyors	
Pleasant Springs Baptist Ch	7/14, 5:30-8:30 PM; 7/15, 8:30-11:30 AM; 7/16, 6:00-8:00 PM			Campout (S’more Jesus)
Westlawn Baptist Church	7/16 - 20	6:00 - 8:00 PM	Galactic Starveyors	7/21 - Family Night
West Mastin Lake Baptist Ch	7/24 - 27		Galactic Starveyors	
Whitesburg Pulaski Campus	7/17 - 21	9:00 - Noon	Galactic Starveyors	

sheep. Just as Jesus told Peter to, “...Tend My lambs” (John 21:15), God’s ministers today have the same mandate. Jesus said, “...I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father...” (John 10:14-15) Jesus has an intimate relationship with His sheep, not one that is superficial, for it is comparable to His relationship with the Father! And we believers are all a part of God’s sheepfold, God’s family. We are all a part of the body of Christ, and our unity and love for one another should attract more people to the Savior of the sheep.

Your Director of Missions,
Charlie

Galilee Baptist Church
(4262 Old Highway 431, New Hope)
will be having their annual church
Homecoming, Sunday, July 16, 2017 with
Hope's Journey as special guest singers.
Service will begin at 10:00 a.m.
with lunch following.
Everyone is welcome! Hope to see you there.
Call 256-723-4819 for more information.

**Craig Etheredge Presents *Bold Moves:*
Transitioning to Disciple-Making**



Craig Etheredge is a gifted communicator, author, and Bible teacher and the Lead Pastor at First Baptist Colleyville in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Craig is Founder and President of discipleFIRST ministries, and he recently authored the book *Bold Moves: Lead the Church to Live Like Jesus*.

Thursday, August 17th
10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M
Location: Willowbrook Baptist Church
Cost: \$15 (covers lunch)
Contact Ron Lynch at MBA to Register
Office Number: 256-536-0015 E-mail: rlynch@madisonassociation.org

- July 13 Minister’s Conference (MBA, 10:30 AM)
- July 16-20 Appalachian Mission Trip
- July 18 Church Financial Issues (Mount Zion)
- Aug 4-5 The Summit: For Church Leaders (Shocco Springs)
- Aug 10 Minister’s Conference (MBA, 10:30 AM)
- Aug 12 Equipping WMU Leader Conference (University, 9:00 AM)
- Aug 17 Bold Moves Discipleship Conference (Willowbrook, 10:00 AM)
- Aug 21 MBA Executive Board Mtg. (MBA, 10:00 AM)
- Aug 26 SS & Discipleship Leader Training (Lindsay Lane, Athens)

Minister’s Conference
Thursday, July 13, 10:30 a.m.
The guest speaker will be
Dr. Charles Freeman, Pastor of Hillwood Baptist Church, and his topic will be
Roadblocks to Restoring Your Passion for God.
Fellowship and lunch will take place after the conference. Lunch will be provided for \$5 per person.

Mission Opportunities for 2017
Williamsburg, Kentucky Mission Trip
July 16 — 20, 2017
More information is available at the MBA — please be in prayer for this team!

~ HOMECOMING ~
Northside Baptist Church, Huntsville
Sunday, July 16, 2017
Morning Worship Service begins at 10:45 a.m., and will immediately be followed by a fellowship luncheon.
All are welcome to join!
(Sunday School will begin at 10:00 a.m.)

Madison Baptist Association, Inc.
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Closed on Fridays

