



April 22, 2018 Fourth Sunday of Easter Lectionary: 50 Gospel JN 10:11-18

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again. This command I have received from my Father."

Spiritual Reflection:

It was the custom of the time for the shepherd to break the leg of a lamb that kept wandering away. The shepherd would then place the lamb on his shoulders. The lamb would then get use to the shepherds voice and so would never again wander away. Jesus' leaves this part of the story out because God never does evil (hurt)in order accomplish a good.

Spiritual Questions:

1. Do you do evil to accomplish a good?
2. Why do you wander away?
3. Why does Jesus search?
4. How well do you control your temper?
5. How do you bring people back to God?