



Week 10 Secret word: **Good Shepherd**

John 10:11 (NIV)

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

And today's story is a collection of ways that Jesus described himself.

As Jesus keeps doing miracles and teaching about God's Kingdom, more and more people are asking Him who He is, what He is. They know Jesus is special. Now they want to know if He is the Messiah.

So they ask Him.

Jesus says "I am the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. I am come down from heaven to do the will of God and to raise his people up. "

We especially remember this description of Jesus during Communion, when we take bread to join the body of Jesus.

Another time Jesus says "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

We can think of this description of Jesus when we look at the candles on the altar.

Jesus also answers this way. "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit. This is my father's glory."

We especially bear fruit on Jesus' vine when we help each other.

And Jesus talks about himself as today's secret word- a Good Shepherd. Jesus tells his followers that a Good Shepherd opens the gate for his sheep, so that they can enter their safe pasture. A Good Shepherd calls each of his sheep by name and they follow him because they trust him. Jesus says the Good Shepherd will even die for his sheep.

Jesus says that he is our Good Shepherd and we are his own sheep.

Jesus says in all of these ways that he came into our world to lead us to his Father God and to Eternal Life.

Color the Good Shepherd...

