

Sermon Notes Sunday 30th June 'Compassion'

Throughout Jesus's ministry he drew on the everyday imagery within that society of Shepherds and their sheep to illustrate the relationship between God and his people.

Read Ezekiel 34:1-16 and Matthew 9:35-38

Discuss together something of the characteristics of sheep:

- Their behaviour – why do they clump together in a flock?
- What trouble might a lonesome sheep find itself in?
- Threats – What hazards might a flock encounter and what effect might it have on individual sheep (e.g. people, predators, parasites, pasture)?
- What is the role of a Shepherd (see first few verses of Ps23)?

Discuss together some of the characteristics of people:

- How similar are people to sheep? What sort of 'flocks' do people gather in? Are they life giving or life inhibiting?
- What might a human 'lost sheep' look like and where might you find him/her? Who goes looking for them?
- If you came across a 'lost sheep', what would you do?

Discuss together some of the threats (traps, destroyers):

- What might Jesus call a wolf in 2019?
- What should we do about them? How did Jesus do it?

Discuss together the calling of the church:

- How effective is the church in providing a 'flock' for lost sheep?
- What is good? What could be better?
- How well does it cope with marginalised/on the edge people?
- How did Jesus do it?

Discuss together the role of Shepherds:

- Reflecting on what the Bible teaches about Shepherds, is there anything you feel inspired to do or pray for?
- What about Holy Trinity Tewkesbury. Are you happy with what is being done? What more could you be involved in to improve our calling to the 'lost sheep' of Tewkesbury? What would Jesus do?

Pray together for a fruitful and effective ministry individually and corporately to the people around us.

Sermon Notes Sunday 30th June 'Compassion'

Throughout Jesus's ministry he drew on the everyday imagery within that society of Shepherds and their sheep to illustrate the relationship between God and his people.

Read Ezekiel 34:1-16 and Matthew 9:35-38

Discuss together something of the characteristics of sheep:

- Their behaviour – why do they clump together in a flock?
- What trouble might a lonesome sheep find itself in?
- Threats – What hazards might a flock encounter and what effect might it have on individual sheep (e.g. people, predators, parasites, pasture)?
- What is the role of a Shepherd (see first few verses of Ps23)?

Discuss together some of the characteristics of people:

- How similar are people to sheep? What sort of 'flocks' do people gather in? Are they life giving or life inhibiting?
- What might a human 'lost sheep' look like and where might you find him/her? Who goes looking for them?
- If you came across a 'lost sheep', what would you do?

Discuss together some of the threats (traps, destroyers):

- What might Jesus call a wolf in 2019?
- What should we do about them? How did Jesus do it?

Discuss together the calling of the church:

- How effective is the church in providing a 'flock' for lost sheep?
- What is good? What could be better?
- How well does it cope with marginalised/on the edge people?
- How did Jesus do it?

Discuss together the role of Shepherds:

- Reflecting on what the Bible teaches about Shepherds, is there anything you feel inspired to do or pray for?
- What about Holy Trinity Tewkesbury. Are you happy with what is being done? What more could you be involved in to improve our calling to the 'lost sheep' of Tewkesbury? What would Jesus do?

Pray together for a fruitful and effective ministry individually and corporately to the people around us.