



Sunday, May 24, 2020

Pastor Don Denyes

## **Intro to John 10:7-18**

Remembering is a fundamental discipline of the Christian life. Thirteen times in the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses exhorts the people of Israel to remember their former situation as slaves in Egypt, to remember the great works that God performed on their behalf to rescue them from slavery, and to remember the holiness of life that He called them to in the commandments. In a similar way, Paul repeatedly exhorts people in his letters to remember: to remember their former way of life (apart from Christ), to remember the sacrifice that Christ made on their behalf to reconcile them to God, and to remember the holy life that they had been called to as well.

So, the concept of “memorial” has deep roots, not only as a ceremonial act (though there is that too), but more deeply as a means by which we draw near to God in deeper trust and devotion. Thus, we as followers of Jesus should have a regular discipline of remembering our former way of life and how God brought us to Himself. Even if we don’t have many memories from before we became Christians, we surely all have memories of what life is like when we give ourselves over to sin and temptation and, practically-speaking, reject the good authority of Christ over us (see Luke 6:46)

## **Context**

There are many unique features of John’s Gospel. One of the unique features is that John does not tell the stories of Jesus telling His disciples directly that He was going to suffer and die. In Matthew, Mark, and Luke, Jesus’s foretelling of His suffering and death are prominently placed throughout. In John, Jesus speaks primarily of His “hour,” which is the moment of His suffering/crucifixion. He also speaks, here at least, of “laying down” His life for us. The effect is the same.

**Read and Reflect** *(Use this section to write down any thoughts you had on the sermon. Make sure to note any questions you had about something in the passage or in the sermon.)*

Read John 10:7-18

“Memorial Day”

Memorial Day

Remember the Fallen

- We ought to show honor to whom honor is due (Rom. 13:7)
- They gave their lives for us
  - o They gave their lives willingly
  - o They gave their lives purposefully
  - o They gave their lives against a common enemy

Sunday

Remember the Fallen

- Jesus gave His life for us (John 10:11, 17-18)
  - o He gave His life willingly
  - o He gave His life purposefully
  - o He gave His life to defeat a common enemy

We must faithfully and forever remember the sacrifice of Christ!

## Discuss

- 1) As you remember your way of life apart from Christ, who or what primarily influenced you? Why were they so compelling to you then? And how do you view them differently now?
- 2) What is it about Jesus as our shepherd that makes Him “the Good Shepherd”?
- 3) How easy or difficult is it for you to resonate with Jesus calling us “sheep” in this passage? Why is that?
- 4) Read v. 18 again. How is Jesus’s authority in this verse a comfort to the sheep?
- 5) How disciplined are you in “remembering Christ”? What does that look like practically in your life?