Introduction:
1. E.g. -Parents want what is best for our children more so than anyone else.
2. Likewise, no one wants greater blessings for Christians than Jesus.
3. Jesus is the Good Shepherd because…

I. **HE HAS THE WORDS OF LIFE -10:1-5**
   A. **BACKGROUND**
      1. At night the shepherd would combine their sheep into one-fold.
      2. In the morning, they would call to their sheep.
      3. The sheep knew their shepherd’s voice and followed appropriately.

   B. **APPLICATION**
      1. The Pharisees voice
         a. The former blind man refused to harken their voice -Jn 9:24, 25
         b. His parents would not stand for Jesus, nor their own son -Jn 9:20-23
      2. However, Jesus has the words of life.
         a. Peter’s admission -Jn 6:66-69
         b. The Scriptures have life and they testify of Jesus -Jn 5:39, 40
         c. When one hears and heeds the words of Jesus, he is building his life upon
            the rock that will stand in Judgment -Mt 7:24-27

II. **HE GIVES ABUNDANT LIFE 10:7-10**
   A. **HE IS THE DOOR**
      1. There is no other way to the Father -Jn 14:6
      2. E.g. -Noah’s ark only had one door to salvation.

   B. **ALL OTHERS WERE THIEVES AND ROBBERS**
      1. The Pharisees added many restrictions to the Law -cf. Mt 23:2-4
      2. The Pharisees excluded the weightier matters of the Law -Mt 23:23, 24

III. **HE LAY... DOWN HIS LIFE -10:11-18**
    A. **JESUS GIVES HIS LIFE FOR THE SHEEP**
       1. Jesus did this upon the cross of Calvary -1Co 15:3
       2. His life was given a ransom for many -Mt 20:28
       3. He became a curse for us -Ga 3:13
B. CONTRASTED WITH THE HIRELING
   1. The hireling is representative of the Pharisees
      a. The hireling does not have evil intent as the thief and robber.
      b. He takes care of his own interest before the well-being of the sheep
   2. The shepherd David contrasted with The Good Shepherd Jesus
      a. E.g. - David was a good shepherd who put his life on the line for the sheep
         -1Sa 17:34-36
      b. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who laid down His life for the sheep.

C. JESUS GIVES HIS LIFE FOR ALL HIS SHEEP -vs. 16
   1. The religious world has a wide variety of interpretations of this passage
   2. Jesus is referencing the Gentiles -Ep 2:14-18
   3. No one who comes to Jesus will be denied -Jn 6:37

D. JESUS GIVES HIS LIFE WILLINGLY -vs. 17, 18
   1. No one could take His life from Him.
      a. Herod failed to do so –Mt 2:13-18
      b. The mob of Nazareth failed -Lk 4:16-30
      c. The Jews who were listening to Him -Jn 10:31, 39
   2. Jesus had the power to lay it down and to raise it again
      a. Jesus would raise in three days -Jn 2:19
      b. He would not be left in Hades -Ps 16:8-11; Ac 2:25-28

Conclusion:
   1. Because Jesus laid down His life for us and rose again, we have the hope of eternal life.
   2. Our response must be to hear His words of Life and live in faithful obedience to Him.
   3. He is the Good Shepherd who is leading His sheep home!