

John 10:1-10, “How to Care for People”

Jesus says in verse 10 that His purpose is to give “abundant life.” If we are to mimic Jesus, then that’s our job too. Being a good dad, mom, employer, friend, or mentor means we help people experience the best that life has to give. We care for people, like a shepherd would care for the sheep.

And in John 10:1-10 we find some practical principles to help us be better care-givers.

1. Tell the truth.

John 10:1a, “I tell you the truth ...”

John 10:7a, “I tell you the truth ...”

2. Build deep relationships.

John 10:3, “The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.”

3. Lead people.

John 10:4, “After he has gathered his own flock, he walks ahead of them, and they follow him because they know his voice.”

4. Protect.

John 10:1, 7-8, “I tell you the truth, anyone who sneaks over the wall of a sheepfold, rather than going through the gate, must surely be a thief and a robber! ... ⁷ so he explained it to them: “I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them.”

5. Point the way.

John 10:9, "Yes, I am the gate. Those who come in through me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures."

6. Provide abundance.

John 10:10, "The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life."

A closing prayer ... "Dear God, help us each one to care deeply for others and partner with You in showing people how to experience a rich and satisfying life. In Jesus' name, amen."