

February 5, 2017
Series: Thrones
Part 2: Every Sheep Needs a Shepherd
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1. Who's the best leader you have ever had and why?
2. Would you say Christ is on the throne (is the king, the boss) of your life or are you on throne and Jesus merely a part of your life? How can we know that?
3. Paul says in I Corinthians 11:1, "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ." Could you say that? What areas of your life could you encourage others to follow?
4. Who has pointed you to Jesus by living as a mirror of who Jesus is? In what ways?
5. Since we're not the perfect Son of God and righteousness is bestowed on us by him, when do you most need grace?
6. Have you known anyone who treated others as a rung on a ladder, standing on them, discounting them, so they can get ahead or seem better?
7. When you're insulted in some way, do you entrust yourself "to him who judges justly" as Jesus did?
8. What are some ways you can remove yourself from the throne and put God on it today?
9. What is one of your things favorite things about being part of the Kingdom of God?
10. How can we discern if our agenda is aligned to God's agenda?
11. There is much imagery in the Bible about sheep and shepherds. People are called sheep. Matthew 9:36 says that when Jesus "saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd." In John 10:11, Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd, who cares for, even dies for, his sheep. How are the metaphors sheep and Shepherd so appropriate for the relationship Jesus has with us?
(There should be many answers, but here are a few points: Sheep can't take care of themselves. They have no way to protect themselves. If they fall over on their backs, they are built in such a way that they cannot stand up again and will die there unless someone helps them. (Phillip Keller's *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23* is a wonderful

look at sheep and shepherds.) The Good Shepherd tends his sheep, making sure they're safe and healthy.