

John 10: 1

Topic: a) What can rob us?

a) There was a mouse named Herman. One day his friends told him that the humans were having a huge picnic at the park. They told him there would be tons of delicious food. Leftover cheeseburgers, cake, pies, hot dogs, everything a mouse loves to eat. They invited Herman to come with them to the picnic. As Herman walked to meet his friends he met a rat who was going the opposite way. The rat asked Herman where he was going. Herman told him he was going to a wonderful picnic. The rat told Herman that he had a better idea. "Picnics are dull!" said the rat. "Come with me and I'll take you to a place where's there's a real feast!" So Herman followed the rat. The rat led him to a smelly garbage can that was filled with rotting garbage and flies. "See!" said the rat, "I told you this would be better."

Who got robbed?

a) Genesis 3: 1-6....Satan talks Adam and Eve into eating the fruit.

- Who got robbed?

a) Bobby was lying on the couch watching television. Suddenly his dad came in and told him to turn the set off. His dad said he was watching too much television and he needed to do his homework anyway. Instead of obeying his dad, Bobby lie there on the couch a while longer just to see what was on next. The next show to come on was a movie called, "Space aliens vs. the worm monster." Bobby really wanted to see this one. So instead of obeying and doing his homework he stayed on the couch. After a while his dad came in. Dad was not happy. Bobby was sent to his room. This was not a happy night. Bobby sat in his room sad. He had disobeyed and the movie he watched wasn't a good one at all.

- What kind of a night is Bobby going to have?
- What kind of a night could he have had?
- Who got robbed?
- God wants the best for us. How can we avoid getting robbed? (Listen to and obey God)

John 10: 2

Topic: The Lord is my shepherd.

a) What are some things a shepherd does? Why would David say that the Lord is my shepherd?

a) Psalm 23

- **Verse 1....** The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

God made a tree. This tree was the home to a squirrel whose name was Squirrel. In this tree high above the ground was a hole. It was the perfect home for Squirrel and his family to live in. Once inside the hole they were protected from the rain and cold. The leaves on the tree made nice comfy beds for the squirrels to sleep on. The tree was large and its branches made the perfect playground for Squirrel's children. When it was hot the tree provided shade for the squirrel family. Best of all, Squirrel and his family never ran out of food even in winter because the tree was loaded with delicious nuts. These squirrels had everything they needed.

- Does Squirrel need anything? Why not? (Because the tree provided everything he needed)
- Who takes care of us and provides everything we need?
- **Verse 2...** He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

Once there was a little lamb who lived in a pen. One day the door opened. The little lamb looked outside the door and there was her shepherd. He called her name in a gentle voice. The little lamb laughed, ran out of the pen and followed her shepherd. The shepherd led the little lamb to a valley. This valley was filled with the most luscious and tasty grass the lamb had ever seen. The lamb jumped into the grass and started eating. It was delicious. Then the shepherd led the lamb to a stream of water. The lamb was very thirsty, ran to the stream and stuck her head in. The water was so clean you could see to the bottom of the stream. It was cold and tasted delicious. The lamb drank until she was full. Then she and her shepherd sat under a tall tree to rest. Lying there on the lap of her shepherd the little lamb felt very safe, full and happy. It was good to follow her shepherd.

- Is it good to follow our shepherd?
- **Verse 3...** He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

There was a boy who planted a flower. He planted the flower out in the open where it would get the most rain and sun. He tugged the flower in with nice rich dirt. Then he told the flower to stay where it was planted so it could grow. As soon as the boy left, the flower started being bad. "I don't have to stay here in this field! I can live wherever I want!" said the flower. So the flower pulled itself up by its roots and started looking for a new place to live. The flower saw a huge tree and thought it would be nice to live under its shade. It went under the tree and planted itself there. The only problem was that the flower was no longer getting any sunshine or water. By the time the boy found the flower it was wilted and almost dying. The boy gently dug the flower up and gently replanted it back in the sunshine. Soon the flower was blooming beautifully and living.

- Who brought the flower back to life?
- Did he do it because the flower was good?
- Who was good?
- Who always brings us back to life?
- Because we are good? (Because of the One who is good to us)

- **Verse 4**....Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Once there was a worm who had a very special best friend. He was best friends with the lion, the king of the jungle. The worm and the lion were always together. In the morning they would take long walks through the forest. The trees of the forest were filled with hungry worm eating birds but the worm would walk through the forest in the morning without fear. He could hear the hungry birds flying overhead but he just smiled.

- Why wasn't the worm afraid? (Because of who was with him)
- Who has promised to be with us and never leave us?

There was a boy who was on a long journey. He was almost to the place he wanted to go but there was one more obstacle he had to cross. There was a pond called "Alligator Pond." As the boy got nearer the pond he could hear the alligators splashing their long tails in the water. When he got to the pond he could see them. They saw him and squatted in the water so only their eyes could be seen. They lay there waiting for the boy, who they named "Lunch" to try to cross their pond. The boy didn't know what to do. Suddenly he saw these things that looked like rocks rise out of the water. They were large turtles. One of the turtles told the boy to step on their shells and walk across the pond. The boy did what the turtle told him and stepped from shell to shell until he was safely across the pond.

- Why did the boy get across alligator pond safely? (He did what the turtle said)
- How do we get through life safely? (Do what God says)
- **Verse 5**....You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.

There was a boy who wanted to fly. He thought that maybe some day he might be able to ride in an airplane. One day he was talking to his neighbor and told him that he hoped to fly someday in an airplane. His neighbor said, "Do you want to fly or do you really, really want to fly?" The boy answered that he really, really wanted to fly. His neighbor took the boy into his back yard. There in the middle of the yard was a rocket ship. The neighbor gave the boy an astronaut's suit, put him in the rocket ship and launched it. The boy went sailing through the sky into outer space. He flew around the moon and the planets. The neighbor called him on the radio ... all he could hear was the boy laughing.

- Do you want to live or do you really, really, really want to live?
- John 10:10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.
- John 17:3 "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.
- Follow Jesus!!
- **Verse 6**.... Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

Nancy woke up one morning and wondered what was going to happen that day. She looked outside and saw that it was snowing really hard. She wondered what would happen today. What

if it snows so hard that our roof falls in? What if I walk outside and get hit in the head with a giant snowball. What if a snowman comes to life, comes into our house, melts and gets our carpet all wet? What if it snows so hard that when I go outside and open my mouth it fills up with snow so I can't talk anymore? What if my cat goes outside, freezes and a dog comes along and thinks it's a Popsicle? She really wondered and worried about what was going to happen that day. What do you think is going to happen?

- I know what will happen to you every day of your life. (God will have mercy on you, take care of you and some day bring you to heaven forever)
- Why? (Because He is good)

John 10: 3

Topic: a) Knowing Jesus' voice

a) 1 Kings 19: 9-12....The still small voice.

a) The lion was the king of the jungle. Every morning he would call all the animals together to give them their jobs for the day. There was a little bird. The little bird loved to serve the king so she always listened for his voice to call all the animals. She could always tell when the lion was calling. The other animals had very high voices but the lions voice was very deep and roared through the whole jungle.

- How did she know the lions voice? (It was different from all the other voices)
- God's voice is different from any other voice.
- Pray that you will be able to hear it.

John 10: 7-9

Topic: a) The door

a) When you see Jesus will He look like a door? What do you think He means when He says that He is the door?

a) Luke 23: 39-43...The thief on the cross.

- There is only one door to heaven.
- This man went through it....How?

John 10: 10

Topic: a) What is abundant life? (Abundant means full and overflowing)

a) There were two trees. One of them was huge. It was filled with green leaves. Apples the size of basketballs grew on it. Its limbs were huge. Squirrels and birds made their nests in them. People would come and have picnics under the trees shade. The other tree was scraggly. It

didn't have any leaves. The fruit that grew on it was withered and tasted terrible. Eventually they cut it down and used it for firewood.

- Which of these trees is abundant?

a) There were two flower gardens. One was covered with flowers, all different colors and kinds. You could smell the flowers even when you were a long way off. People would come from miles just to look at the flowers. There was another garden that no one took care of. There were no flowers, only ugly looking weeds that grew up and choked anything that looked or smelled good.

- Which garden is abundant?

a) There were two birds. One of them never learned to fly. It spent all its time on the ground. It had to walk wherever it went and was in constant danger from hungry animals. Sometimes it would look up at the sky and wish that it could fly like the other birds. The other bird learned how to fly. It didn't spend much time on the ground. It would sit in high tree branches where it could see things far away then it would jump off the branch and soar high above the trees into the clouds.

- Which bird had an abundant life?

a) There were two groups of people. One of them lived underground. No light ever shone where they were. All they knew was darkness. They would walk around in the dark tripping over things and running into walls. The other group lived out in the sunshine. They could see everything. They loved being outside in the fresh air and sunshine.

- Who has the abundant life?

a) There are people who know a lot about the earth and everything that goes on in it. There are also people who know a lot about the earth and everything that goes on in it and they also know about heaven, God and forever.

- Who has the abundant life?

Topic: b) How do we get it?

b) There was a scientist who made a huge spaceship. He built it in a field next to his house. People were very interested and excited that this man had made a spaceship. Some people when they heard about the spaceship were excited but they were so far away, they couldn't see it. Some heard about it, went to the field and got close enough to see it. How exciting is that? Some people got close enough to see it and to hear the spaceships engines roaring. How exciting is that? Some people got close enough to see it, hear the engines and touch that spaceship. How exciting is that? Some people got close enough to see it, hear it, touch it, get inside and blast off into outer space. How exciting is that?

- The closer we get to Jesus the more exciting our lives get.
- Those who follow Jesus have abundant life that lasts forever.

John 10: 11-15

Topic: a) What does it mean to lay ones life down?

a) Once there was a large herd of sheep being watched by three shepherds. Suddenly the sheep got nervous. The shepherds looked towards the woods and saw a low shadow creeping along the edge of the field. It was a wolf! When the shepherds saw the wolf, two of them ran. The other shepherd ran up to the wolf with his staff, stood between the wolf and the sheep and kept the wolf away from the sheep long enough for them to run back to the barn and be safe. The sad thing is that the shepherd was killed by the wolf but the sheep were able to escape and live.

- Sin is like a wolf.
- Who died for our sins so we could escape death and go to heaven?
- Did Jesus stay dead?
- Those who live, follow Him.

Topic: b) Why would he do that? (Because he's the good shepherd not just a shepherd)

b) There are two baseball players. One hits two home runs. The other player hits fifty home runs. Why did he hit fifty? (He's a good player)

b) There were three shepherds. When they saw the wolf coming, two ran away, one stayed to protect the sheep. Why? (He was a good shepherd)

- Do we go to heaven because we are good or because Jesus is?

Topic: c) A good shepherd stays close to the sheep. A wise sheep stays close to the shepherd.

c) There was a large flock of sheep. Two shepherds were taking care of the flock. One was in the house watching TV. The other was outside watching over the sheep.

- Which was the good shepherd?

c) Once there were two sheep walking with their shepherd. They were walking past a very dangerous place, "The forest of wolves." Suddenly a wolf popped his head out of the forest and spoke to the sheep, "Hey sheep, come on over here! It's almost lunch time and I'm planning a delicious meal. If you come over here you can be part of it!" One of the sheep listened to the wolf and wandered towards the woods. The other sheep stayed close to his shepherd and would only listen to his voice.

- Which sheep is wise?
- Stay close to Jesus your good shepherd.

John 10: 16

Topic: a) One flock one shepherd.

a) There was a good shepherd who was leading his flock to Green Valley. Green Valley was a place that had the best tasting grass in the whole world. If you were a sheep it would be the best place to be. So the shepherd called out his sheep to follow him. Some of the sheep heard the shepherds voice but decided they didn't want to go. "The barn is good enough" they thought. Some of the sheep didn't believe the shepherd. "There's no such place as Green Valley. That

shepherd doesn't know what he's talking about." Some of the sheep followed the shepherd but when the road got hard they gave up and went back to the barn. Some of the sheep didn't go all the way to the valley. They saw some grass by the side of the road and figured it was good enough even though the grass was all brown and tasted lousy. But there was one little group of sheep who followed the shepherd all the way. When they got to Green Valley they were so happy. It was better than they even imagined.

- Some will not believe. Some will settle for less. There will be one flock who follow Jesus, our good shepherd to heaven.

John 10: 17-18

Topic: a) Did they make Jesus go to the cross?

a) The lion, the king of the jungle was taking a nap. Suddenly he felt something pulling on one of his whiskers. He opened one eye and saw a small mouse standing there looking very serious. The lion opened both eyes and growled, "What do you want?" The mouse replied, "You listen to me lion! From now on I am going to be king of the jungle! You will do what I say! Now get up and fetch me some food!"

- Can the mouse make the lion do what he says? Why not?
- Is there anyone more powerful than God?
- Could the soldiers make Jesus go to the cross?
- Then why did He go?

Topic: b) Could evil keep Jesus dead?

b) So the mouse was very angry because the lion would not obey him or let him be king of the jungle. So when the lion fell asleep again the mouse gathered a bunch of little sticks. He took all the little sticks, and built a cage around the lion tying them together with string he had found. When the lion woke up he found himself inside the stick cage. The mouse yelled at the lion, "You did not obey me! Now you must stay in this cage forever!"

- Will the mouse be able to keep the lion in the cage? Why not?
- Was death able to keep Jesus? Why not?
- Will death be able to keep us? (No because Jesus died for us and rose again)

John 10: 19-21

Topic: a) Why listen to Jesus?

a) Once there was a bunch of kids who went for a hike. They didn't go for a hike in the country, they went for a hike in the city. They packed a lunch, grabbed their backpacks and started walking. They walked and walked. Soon they realized that they were lost. They stood on a street corner trying to figure out which way they should go. A policeman came by. He saw the

kids standing there, walked up to them and said, “You kids look like you’re lost.” They told him they were and the policeman gave them directions so they could get back home.

- Why should they listen to the policeman?

a) Bill woke up one morning and could hear water running. He went outside and found that it was coming from his neighbors house. Bill knocked on the door. When his neighbor answered he told Bill that his basement was filling up with water and soon his whole house would be filled with water. He didn’t know what to do. Bill said to him, “Listen, I’m a plumber and I can tell you exactly what to do. Go down in your basement. There’s a big valve down there. Turn it off and it will stop the water from flooding your house.

- Why should the neighbor listen to Bill?
- Why should we listen to Jesus?
- How does He speak to us? (His word and that gentle voice that speaks twithout words)

John 10: 22-26

Topic: a) Prove it.

a) There was a boy named Norman. One day Norman stood in front of his friends and said, “I want everyone’s attention. I want you all to know that I can fly.” His friends didn’t believe him. Norman decided to prove it to them so he climbed up onto the roof of his house, jumped off and started flapping his arms like a bird. Later that day when his friends visited him in the hospital Norman said, “I really can fly you know.”

- Do you believe him?

a) Once there was a girl named Sarah who loved to chew bubble gum. One day Sarah stood in front of her friends and said, “I can blow the biggest bubble in the whole world.” Her friends didn’t believe her so Sarah decided to prove it to them. She chewed and chewed. Then she started blowing a bubble. Later that day there was a special report on the news...”This just in...The entire world seems to have been covered by a giant bubble!!” “See” said Sarah, “I told you I could blow the biggest bubble.”

- Do you believe her?
- Jesus said that He is God the Savior. Do you believe Him? Why?

John 10: 27

Topic: a) Stay close to Jesus it’s the best place.

a) One night the shepherd herded all his sheep into the pen where they would be warm and safe for the night. One little lamb snuck out and wandered away. The lamb was having a great time exploring the dark fields but soon there was a rumbling of thunder and a scary storm moved in. The little lamb wet and scared hid shivering under a bush. The shepherd saw that he was missing a lamb. Out into the storm he went. He searched and searched through the thunder and

lightning. Finally he heard the little lamb crying under the bush. He picked her up and carried her back to the pen where the other sheep were sleeping warm and dry. Shivering the lamb lay down next to her shepherd and began to get warm again.

- Did the shepherd keep her and take care of her even though she wandered away?
- Would it have been better for the lamb to have stayed close to her shepherd instead of wandering off?
- Stay close to Jesus...It's the best place.

Topic: b) If you belong to Him...You will be found in Him.

b) One day a shepherd and his lamb were walking in a field. Suddenly a huge wind storm came up. The wind was blowing so hard that it lifted the lamb up into the air. The shepherd grabbed hold of the lamb's leg and held on. The wind blew harder and harder. It was almost like the wind was trying to blow the lamb away but the shepherd held on tight. The lamb had her eyes closed. She could feel the wind starting to die down. When she opened her eyes the wind had gone and she was safe in the arms of her shepherd.

- Do you want to belong to Jesus? Then He will hold on to you and keep you.

Topic: c) He knows your heart.

c) Matthew 4: 18-20...Jesus calls Peter to follow.

Matthew 26: 69-75....Peter fails

John 21: 15-19....Jesus calls Peter to follow again.

- Peter wasn't perfect but Jesus knew that Peter wanted to be with Him.

John 10: 28-29

Topic a) Shepherds give grass...What does Jesus give?

a) There were some sheep in a pen. They were hungry. Soon they heard the sound that they had been waiting to hear. It was their shepherd's voice calling each one of their names to come out and follow him. When the sheep heard their names they ran out of the pen to their shepherd. They happily followed him through the fields and the woods until they came to a place that had the tallest, greenest, juiciest grass the sheep had ever seen. They ran into the grass and ate until they were really full.

- Jesus calls you by name to follow.
- What does He give us? (Eternal life)

Topic: b) No one can steal you away from God.

b) Once there was a man who had a very valuable treasure. He put the treasure in a special safe and locked it. As soon as the man left the house, thieves broke in. They knew the treasure was in the safe. They tried and tried to get the safe open but couldn't. They even tried to blow it up with dynamite but nothing could get that treasure out of the safe. Pretty soon the police showed up and arrested the thieves. When the man came home his treasure was still safe in the safe.

- You are God's treasure
- He bought you. How?
- Nothing in heaven or earth can steal you away from God
- There is nothing stronger than God and He loves you.
- Romans 8: 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come,
39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 10: 30-42

Topic: a) This man is God?

a) Riddle: What is the only way that a man could be God? (Only if God became a man)

Topic: b) How much love is that for Him to come down?

b) Once there was a boy who lived in a mansion. This was a really cool place to live. There was a swimming pool, a go cart track and huge video game room. Outside the mansion on the street was a puddle. In this puddle was a worm who was about to drown because he couldn't find his way out of the puddle. If you were the boy would you help the worm? One thing though...if you want to help the worm you have to leave the mansion and live in the puddle. Do you still want to help the worm? One other thing though...if you want to help the worm you have to live in the puddle and you have to become a worm. Still want to help the worm?

- Jesus is God. He left heaven and became a human being in order to take all our sins on Himself and die so we can live.
- Sin kills but God is love.

Topic: c) He proved it.

c) There were some kids skateboarding. One of the boys whose name was Randy said that he could skate down the sidewalk, jump off his board, jump over a park bench and land on his board again. The other kids said, "No way, you can't do that!" Randy said, "Watch." He took off down the sidewalk, when he came to the bench he jumped off his board. He jumped over the

bench and landed on his board which was coming out the other side of the bench.
“Wow!” said the kids, “He really can do it!”

- Do they believe because of what he said or what he did?
- What are some of the things Jesus did?
- Many people will say they love you. Only one came down from heaven, died for you, came to life and is coming back to take you to heaven.