

# More To Life - John 10:1–18 - LG

**Theme:** *Is There More to Life Than This?*

**Key verse:** *"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."* - John 10:10

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## Read the Word

Read **John 10:1–18** aloud.

Invite different voices for sections to keep attention and pace fresh.

Encourage everyone to listen for **contrast** - what's the difference between the *thief*, the *hired hand*, and the *shepherd*?

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## Explore the Passage



### The Setting

Jesus is speaking to people who've seen blind eyes opened (John 9). He now explains *why* He came - not just to restore sight, but to offer *life in all its fullness*.



### The Thief (v10)

| "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy."

**Leader note:** Help people unpack this slowly - don't rush to 'Satan'. The "thief" represents *anything that promises life apart from God* - possessions, pleasure, status, even religion.

It's the voice that whispers, *"You'll find life if you just have more, do more, achieve more."*

### Discuss:

- What are some "thieves" in our culture that steal joy, peace, or hope?
  - How have you experienced this in your own life?
  - Why do we still find those false promises so tempting?
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### The Hired Hand (v12–13)

“The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep...”

Even those we rely on most - friends, systems, careers - can let us down.

Jesus contrasts Himself with these unreliable “hired hands”: He doesn’t abandon; He stays.

**Discuss:**

- How does Jesus’ care differ from “hired hands” in our lives?
  - When have you felt abandoned or disappointed, and how did your faith sustain you?
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## **The Good Shepherd (v11, 14–15)**

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

This is the *heart of the Gospel*: love to the point of sacrifice.

Jesus knows us - personally, intimately - and chooses to lay down His life *for us*.

This is not about mere survival but **abundant, rich, real life** - *life to the full*.

**Leader note:** Emphasise relationship and trust - “the sheep know His voice.” Encourage people to reflect on what that means for daily discipleship and prayer.

**Discuss:**

- What do you think “life to the full” really means?
  - How can we better recognise and respond to the Shepherd’s voice in our lives?
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## **Reflect & Apply**

**Leader note:** Transition gently from discussion to reflection. Invite people to consider how this message meets them *personally*.

## **Three Big Truths:**

1. **Made for Relationship** – “I know my sheep and my sheep know me.” (v14)

→ How is your relationship with Jesus growing? What helps you recognise His voice?

2. **Made for Purpose** – “Created in Christ Jesus to do good works...”  
(Ephesians 2:10)

→ Where might Jesus be calling you to join Him in His work this week?

3. **Made for Eternity** – “I lay down my life only to take it up again.” (v17)

→ How does this eternal hope shape the way you live today?

**Prompt for reflection:**

- “What does ‘life in all its fullness’ look like for me right now?”
  - “Where am I tempted to settle for less than what Jesus offers?”
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**Respond & Pray**

- Thank Jesus for being the Good Shepherd - faithful, present, and sacrificial.
- Confess where we’ve followed false voices or false promises.
- Invite His Spirit to renew our joy, peace, and purpose - *life to the full*.