



## Why We Need the Good Shepherd

Hosea 4:1-19

### Israel's Courtroom Scene

1. **THE CHARGES** → No \_\_\_\_\_, no \_\_\_\_\_, no \_\_\_\_\_.

2. **THE VERDICT** → Nothing but \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### What We Need

1. To \_\_\_\_\_ God.

2. A good \_\_\_\_\_ who will \_\_\_\_\_ us.

### Learning from Israel's Court Case

1. We can't \_\_\_\_\_ God and expect to keep his \_\_\_\_\_.

2. A breakdown in our relationship with \_\_\_\_\_ leads to a breakdown in our relationships with \_\_\_\_\_.

3. There is a difference between \_\_\_\_\_ accusations and speaking the truth in \_\_\_\_\_.

4. We can know \_\_\_\_\_ God through several avenues, but the only way to know him \_\_\_\_\_ is through Christ.

5. God does everything to change us from \_\_\_\_\_ cows to \_\_\_\_\_ lambs.



## Why We Need the Good Shepherd

### Hosea 4:1-19

#### Israel's Courtroom Scene

1. **THE CHARGES** → No **FAITHFULNESS**, no **LOVE**, no **KNOWLEDGE**.
2. **THE VERDICT** → Nothing but **BROKENNESS** and **MOURNING**.

#### What We Need

1. To **KNOW** God.
2. A good **SHEPHERD** who will **TRANSFORM** us.

#### Learning from Israel's Court Case

1. We can't **DESERT** God and expect to keep his **BLESSINGS**.
2. A breakdown in our relationship with **GOD** leads to a breakdown in our relationships with **ONE ANOTHER**.
3. There is a difference between **HYPOCRITICAL** accusations and speaking the truth in **LOVE**.
4. We can know **ABOUT** God through several avenues, but the only way to know him **INTIMATELY** is through Christ.
5. God does everything to change us from **STUBBORN** cows to **DOCILE** lambs.

## For Further Study

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### Getting Started

1. God's main accusation is "no faithfulness, no love, no knowledge of God" (Hosea 4:1). What signs of this do we see in today's society?
2. What signs of this do we see in the modern church?

### Digging Deeper

3. Hosea 4:2-3 shows that a breakdown in our relationship with God inevitably leads to a breakdown in our relationships with others and creation. What signs of this do we see today?
4. Why does "knowing God" make all the difference in our level of love and faithfulness?

### Driving It Home

5. What is one practical step you'd like to take this week toward knowing God better?
6. Is there any "stubbornness" that you'd like to give up to Jesus? Spend some time in prayer petitioning the good Shepherd to bring change into your heart.