



## CELL GUIDE

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**TOPIC** Jehovah Rohi

**SPEAKER** SP Daniel Foo

**THEME** Knowing and Experiencing God

**DATE** 13 & 14 July 2019

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# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

SP Daniel Foo introduced the coming theme for the season with Psalm 23 (NIV):

*The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even 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. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.*

From Psalm 23, God reveals His seven redemptive names. SP further expounded on the first – **Jehovah Rohi** – The LORD is my shepherd (v1a). He shared with us His intended character as the Good Shepherd.

## JEHOVAH ROHI – THE GOOD SHEPHERD

It is not enough to only know about God. SP reminds us that knowledge alone puffs up the mind (1 Cor 8:1). In addition to knowing of and about God, we also need to experience Him, his character, attributes and promises.

### 1) Know and experience the LOVE of the Good Shepherd

a) We must first receive and experience the love of God.

1 John 4:10 says that we need a personal revelation and experience of the love of God. Otherwise, our faith becomes a mere religion. None of us can love God by our own effort, as He is the source, the origin, and the fountain of love (1 John 4:16). We then love God as a response to Him, because He first loved us (1 John 4:19). With this love for God, we can then love others (Romans 5:5).

When we fail to experience and abide in the love of God, the contrary happens. We revert to our carnal-corrupt-natural self-love, manifested in performance in works, religious practices and self-indulgence.

b) We must continually appropriate the specific grace of the bodily death and shed blood of the Lord Jesus.

SP reminded us of the importance of the Lord's supper, a specific call made by Jesus to do this often in remembrance of Him, to remember why He died on the cross for us. The Holy Communion is not just a mental memory of Jesus, but instead it serves as a reminder of the significance of the bodily death and shed blood of our Lord Jesus.

## 2) Know and experience the LEADING of the Good Shepherd

Since God is the Good Shepherd, we are His sheep. Being His sheep, we will hear His voice; He knows us and we are to follow Him (John 10:27). He promises us His leading:

a) From the Word (Psalm 119:105)

He gives us His directions, equips us with broad principles, mandates laws which are not to be broken, and provides us with instructions.

b) From the Holy Spirit of Wisdom

From the Holy Spirit and the inner witness, we will be given details of the guidance. The Holy Spirit directs us in our thoughts and emotions on life decisions to be made. There is God's will that is given to each of us, with our mind and heart to help us in the process. Sometimes, the guidance is put in our hearts immediately. Otherwise, the Holy Spirit writes it in our lives over time.

SP also shared two principles that we can use in our decision-making process:

1) Proverbs 3:5-6, to trust in the Lord with all our hearts and lean not on our own understanding;

2) Romans 14:23 to decide by faith.

We have been promised guidance by the Holy Spirit of Wisdom to have the knowledge, understanding and wisdom to make godly decisions.

## 3) Know and experience the LORDSHIP of the Good Shepherd

The good Shepherd is the door of His sheep. This means to make Jesus the Lord and Master of our lives, in which the sheep must always go through the Shepherd in all things.

a) When Jesus is the Lord over our lives, He holds all things together

In Jesus, all things hold together (Colossians 1:17). Jesus is the integration point of all aspects of our lives, like the spokes of a wheel that are connected to the hub that hold it all together. The different areas and responsibilities of life can be overwhelming, but we can trust in Him to help us, through the Word of His power (Hebrews 1:3).

b) We can then experience salvation and the more abundant life

God promises us that we will find pasture as we enter His door (John 10:9). Grace and peace will be further multiplied to us in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord (2 Peter 1:2-4). In every time of need, there is a corresponding grace that we can always seek at His throne of grace.

## Conclusion

God has promised us that in Him we will always be overcomers. We will always be the first and not the last; we will always be on top of our situations and not under them. However, to truly know Him as Jehovah Rohi, we need to live our lives surrendered in total devotion to Him. SP emphasised that when we give of ourselves fully to the Lord, we will rise to a new level of authority. Are you willing to bring your life under His rod?

## QUESTIONS

**1. Reflect and share about a) how have you known of/about and b) experienced God as Jehovah Rohi in your life.**

**2. In your own words, why is it important for Christians to not only know of and about, but also experience God's love?**

**3. Is there an area of your life that you find difficult to submit under His Lordship? What do you find most difficult about submission to Him? Share with your cell and pray.**