

September 22

TODAY'S BIBLE STUDY & MEDITATION

KEY IDEAS: Do I see God for Who He is, a tender and loving Shepherd? Do I see myself as God sees me, as a dearly loved sheep? Do I recognize my responsibility to show tender care for the other members of the flock?

1 **God is a Shepherd over His people** — *Ezekiel 34:11 For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day.*

What confidence will I have knowing that a loving Shepherd watches over me?

What times did God watch over and protect me that I can praise Him for?

2 **I am cared for by God as a shepherd watches over his sheep** — *Psalm 23:1 The LORD [is] my shepherd; I shall not want.*

Why is it destructive to think that I earn God's love?

Why doesn't the devil want me to recognize that I belong to the Lord?

3 **I am to shepherd those under my care and watch over them like church leaders care for their flock** — *1 Peter 5:2 Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind....*

What impact will it have if I consider myself to be a part of God's flock?

Do I injure other members of the flock or do I try to nurture them?

Spirit of Truth, how do you want to apply these verses in my life today?

OPTIONAL BIBLE READINGS

Morning: Galatians 1

Evening: Ecclesiastes 10,11,12