

Outlineforeaster4c16

"Is God Pushing Us or Leading Us?" based on John 10:22-30

Our world is impersonal. Known more by numbers – tax, account, SS, telephone. But, God knows us not by number, but by voice.

- Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice and I know them and they follow me, and I give them eternal life."
- Story of new plane on maiden flight. Pilot was remote, but God is personal
- Promise of God to be with us always, especially in an uncertain world. The death and resurrection of Jesus assures us of that

Troubles in life are times when God is especially close.

- Polio victim said, "it's not what happens to you that matters as much as what happens in you."
- Faith does not shield us from danger as it gives us power to overcome it.
- Alvin Toffler explains that in the world of rapid change, confusion, and too many choices, we all need a stability zone – regular habits, rituals, and beliefs
- Our faith in Jesus Christ is our ultimate stability zone

Imagery that Psalmist provides of shepherd and the sheep

- Cows herded from the rear, sheep need to be led
- We need a 'good shepherd' to lead us

The Lord is our Shepherd, we shall not be in want! As we place our faith in God and our Lord Jesus Christ, we'll find ourselves in a good place!