

CONVERSATION GUIDE

Middle-High School

DATE: 12/6/20

SCRIPTURE: Micah 5:2, 4

LESSON: Jesus, Our Shepherd King

INTRO

This conversation guide exists to help parents interact with their middle and high school students. Our goal in having middle and high school students attend gatherings (or worship at home) with their parents is to help them transition toward being adults who are fully functioning members of the church. But most middle and high school students still need some translation and help connecting what they're learning to their lives. We want our sermons to be accessible, but they aren't specifically targeted toward the transitional teenage years.

- Have you had any interaction with any real-life shepherds in your life? What about other kinds of farmers? If so, what kind of people were they? If not, what do you imagine they might be like?
- **Read Micah 5:2 + 4-5a** - "But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace."
- Why does God choose to use the shepherd metaphor to describe His relationship to us? What does it mean to be God's sheep?
- Calling someone a sheep, or "sheeple" is an insult that means they follow the crowd in a dumb way. Compare and contrast Jesus calling us His sheep with the way we tend to use it.
- For each of these statements, say whether it is hard or easy for you to believe and why:
 - 1.) You are a sheep.
 - 2.) You need Jesus to be Your Shepherd King?
 - 3.) You have Jesus as your Shepherd King?
- What are some practical ways you can ...
 - ... remind yourself that Jesus is your Shepherd King this week?
 - ... walk in humility this week?