Title: “Counting Sheep”  
Text: John 10:11-28

Background: The language of sheep and the shepherd is used by the Apostle John over 30 times in his writings to the early church. The word “sheep” is referenced over 300 times in Scripture, all the while depicting a guiding relationship between God and his people, leading us to know our worth and value.

I. The Contrast between Shepherds: “I Am the GOOD Shepherd” (vs. 11)

Two words used for “good” in the New Testament:
- **Agathos** - the moral quality of the subject or thing.
- **Kalos** - the value, truth, and beauty, in character and service.

Application: He Leads versus Drives

II. The Conviction of the Shepherd: “lays down his life FOR the sheep” (vs. 11)

The Perfect Preposition: The words “For” or “huper” in the Greek language reveals the death of Jesus was: **Willingly, Sacrificially, and Triumphanty**

Quote Worth Sharing: “In the Old Testament the sheep died for the Shepherd, in the New Testament the Shepherd dies for the sheep” - Warren Wiersbe

III. The Call of the Shepherd: “My sheep hear my voice, and I KNOW them, and they follow me” (vs. 27)

The word for “know” speaks of more than being familiar, it is being family:
- He knows your Name
- He knows your Need
- He knows your Nature

Application: He Knows versus Ignores

IV. The Comfort of the Shepherd: “I give them eternal life, and they will NEVER perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand” (vs. 28)

The assurance of eternal life is found in the two words for “give” and “snatch”:
- **To Grant:** To transfer possession of
- **To Guard:** To protect possession of

Application: He Seals versus Releases