

# ***THE HERD OR THE FLOCK?***



Where do I fit?

Am I in the herd or the flock?

## **The herd**

Millions are moving in sync with each other and with their leaders.

They have taken a detour, veering away from the footsteps of Jesus.

They have marched with great zeal into the political sphere.

*Consider carefully:*

Does the message of the herd sound like the voice of Jesus?

***“Love your enemies.”***

***“Pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.”***

***“Beware of false prophets.”***

Jesus' teaching about the herd:

***“Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many.***

***For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few.”***



## **The flock**

The flock is smaller than the herd

The flock has a single focus:

**to follow Jesus.**

The flock relies on no power but the power of the Spirit.

***“Fear not, little flock, it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”***

***Luke 12***

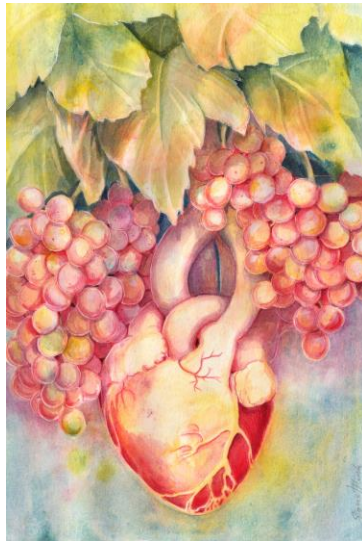
The flock is made up of many branches connected to one Vine:

**Jesus.**

They abide in the Vine.

They bear fruit.

This kind of fruit:



***“I was hungry and you gave me food.  
I was thirsty and you gave me drink.  
I was a stranger and you welcomed me.  
I was naked and you clothed me.  
I was sick and you visited me.  
I was in prison and you came to me.”***

## So where do we fit?

We are either in the herd or in the flock.

By the life we live day by day....

By the way we treat our neighbor---every neighbor....

By the way we handle the truth....

...we put ourselves in the herd or in the flock---forever.

***“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me, and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish.***

***And no one shall snatch them out of my hand.”***

**John 10**



*Prayer: Yes, Yes, Lord Jesus... May we continue to be those of your flock. May we continue to flock around you and you alone... our gentle, masterful shepherd. May we keep hearing and truly heeding your voice. Give us your kind and gentle heart so we may care for the wounded, the lame, the lost, the lonely, the fearful, the sick, the hungry, and the thirsty sheep in the fields. Protect us from wandering away and following any shepherd or voice that leads us away from your gentle presence. And thank you for holding us close, keeping us in your hand, and leading us to your present and eternal kingdom.*

*Maranatha Mirror*

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THE LAMB  
WHO WAS SLAIN  
HAS BEGUN HIS REIGN