

John 10:22–29 takes place during the Festival of Dedication (Hanukkah) in Jerusalem, a celebration of God's faithfulness and the rededication of the Temple. As Jesus walks in Solomon's Colonnade, Jewish leaders demand that He plainly declare whether He is the Messiah. Jesus explains that His works have already revealed His identity, but they do not believe because they are not His sheep. Building on His teaching about the Good Shepherd, Jesus describes His followers as those who hear His voice and follow Him. He then gives one of Scripture's greatest promises of assurance: His sheep have eternal life, will never perish, and are secure in both His hand and the Father's hand.

**When have you experienced assurance or certainty in an important area of life? How did it affect the way you lived?**

#### **Read John 10:22-29**

1. Read John 10:22-24. Why were the religious leaders demanding that Jesus tell them plainly whether He was the Messiah?
2. What does this reveal about belief and unbelief? In verse 25, Jesus says, "I did tell you, but you do not believe." What evidence had Jesus already given of His identity? (See John 5:36)
3. According to John 10:26, why did some people fail to believe in Jesus? How does this challenge the idea that unbelief is simply a lack of information?
4. Read John 10:27. What are the three characteristics Jesus gives of His sheep? How should these marks be evident in the life of a believer? Compare with John 8:31 and James 1:22.
5. What comfort do you find in Jesus' words, "I know them" (v.27)? Compare with Psalm 139:1-4 and 2 Timothy 2:19.
6. Read John 10:28. What does Jesus promise His sheep? How does the phrase "they shall never perish" contribute to a believer's assurance? Romans 8:1.
7. Verse 28 says that no one can snatch believers out of Jesus' hand. What situations or fears might make Christians doubt this promise? How does this verse address those concerns? Compare with Romans 8:38-39.
8. In verse 29, Jesus says believers are also in the Father's hand. What does this reveal about the security God provides for His children? See 1 Peter 1:3-5
9. How does assurance differ from presumption? What is the difference between trusting Christ's promises and simply assuming everything is fine spiritually? See 2 Corinthians 13:5 and 1 John 2:3-6. Read 1 John 5:11-13.
10. According to John, how can believers know that they have eternal life? What connection do you see between this passage and John 10:28?
11. How should the assurance of salvation affect the way we face trials, temptation, suffering, or even death? See Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 13:5-6; Psalm 23:4

## Prayer Points

Pray for the work of OM, its team and all those who enable the work to happen. Pray for unity, good leadership and work of the Lord to flourish through their ministry.

Dave and Michele Mahon work in the coastal city of Trujillo in Peru. They support a Baptist seminary, where they are involved in preparing Peruvians for mission. Pray for corruption to be removed from all levels of government in Peru. Pray also for an end to the extortion of small business owners by criminal gangs and for protection for vulnerable communities.

## Sermon Notes



# BIBLE STUDY

June 28<sup>th</sup> 2026

## The Gift of Assurance

**John 10:22-29**

In the Gospel of John, Jesus progressively reveals His divine identity while confronting deep unbelief. He is presented as the light who exposes spiritual darkness, showing that true blindness is not physical but a refusal to recognise truth. As the Good Shepherd, He embodies sacrificial love, intimate care, and secure belonging for His people. This part of the gospel also emphasises faith as trust in His person rather than mere signs. These passages highlight themes of revelation, belief versus rejection, abundant life, and the growing tension between divine truth and human resistance.

If you would like to join a Connect Group, please contact the church office 01424 730001