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*Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering
from the fold of God.*

*He, to rescue me from danger interposed His
precious blood.*

*Oh, to grace how great a debtor Daily I'm con-
strained to be.*

Let that goodness like a fetter bind my wandering heart to Thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love

Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; Seal it for Thy courts above.

~Robert Robinson, "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

- 1) Read Matthew 18:10-20. Is there anything from the sermon or passage that you found confusing, surprising or encouraging?
- 2) Do you see any similarities between yourself and the characters in Seinfeld? What comes to mind when you hear the words, 'church discipline'?
- 3) How does the metaphor of God as Shepherd and Christians as sheep help us understand our need for church discipline? What is Jesus' vision for relationships within the church, according to this passage?
- 4) How should you deal with sin and conflict in the church, according to Jesus (vv.15-17)? Why do we need vv. 18-20 in our process of loving lost sheep?
- 5) What moves Christians to put away the gavel of judgment and pick up the staff of a tender shepherd? How can you be involved in loving lost sheep?
- 6) Pray for Hope Church to be a loving, compassionate community because of the grace of the gospel.

"Everlasting God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection. May the gospel of grace create a culture of safety and a desire to pursue wandering sheep at Hope Church. We ask that you would take away all hatred and prejudice, and whatever else may keep us from godly peace with one another. Teach us to love what you love Lord. We ask in the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen "

~Book of Common Prayer (p.815, 818)



"In the same way, it is not my heavenly Father's will that even one of these little ones should perish. ~Matthew 18:14