



I AM



THE GOOD SHEPHERD



**11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.<sup>12</sup> A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will abandon the sheep because they don’t belong to him and he isn’t their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. <sup>13</sup> The hired hand runs away because he’s working only for the money and doesn’t really care about the sheep.”**

**JOHN 10:11-18 NLT**

**14 “I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, <sup>15</sup> just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> I have other sheep, too, that are not in this sheepfold. I must bring them also. They will listen to my voice, and there will be one flock with one shepherd.”**

**JOHN 10:11-18 NLT**

**17 “The Father loves me because I sacrifice my life so I may take it back again.<sup>18</sup> No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded.”**

**JOHN 10:11-18 NLT**


The background features faint, light-colored sketches of a sheep on the left and a shepherd's staff on the right. The sheep is depicted with a textured, woolly body and a simple head. The staff is a long, thin pole with several horizontal rungs or branches extending from it. The overall aesthetic is that of a hand-drawn or sketched illustration.

THE OVERALL CONTEXT OF  
A SHEPHERD.



**THE OVERALL CONTEXT OF  
A SHEPHERD.**

**OCCUPATIONAL CONTEXT**



THE OVERALL CONTEXT OF  
A SHEPHERD.

BIBLICAL CONTEXT

THE LEADERS OF ISRAEL, BOTH RELIGIOUS  
AND POLITICAL, WERE OFTEN TIMES  
CALLED SHEPHERDS.

WHEN THEY WERE CORRUPT AND  
NOT FOLLOWING GOD LIKE THEY SHOULD,  
THEY WERE CALLED FALSE SHEPHERDS.



Then this message came to me from the Lord: <sup>2</sup> “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds, the leaders of Israel. Give them this message from the Sovereign Lord: What sorrow awaits you shepherds who feed yourselves instead of your flocks. Shouldn’t shepherds feed their sheep? <sup>3</sup> You drink the

**EZEKIEL 34:1-10 NLT**

milk, wear the wool, and butcher the best animals, but you let your flocks starve. <sup>4</sup> You have not taken care of the weak. You have not tended the sick or bound up the injured. You have not gone looking for those who have wandered away and are lost. Instead, you have ruled them with harshness and cruelty. <sup>5</sup> So my sheep have been scattered

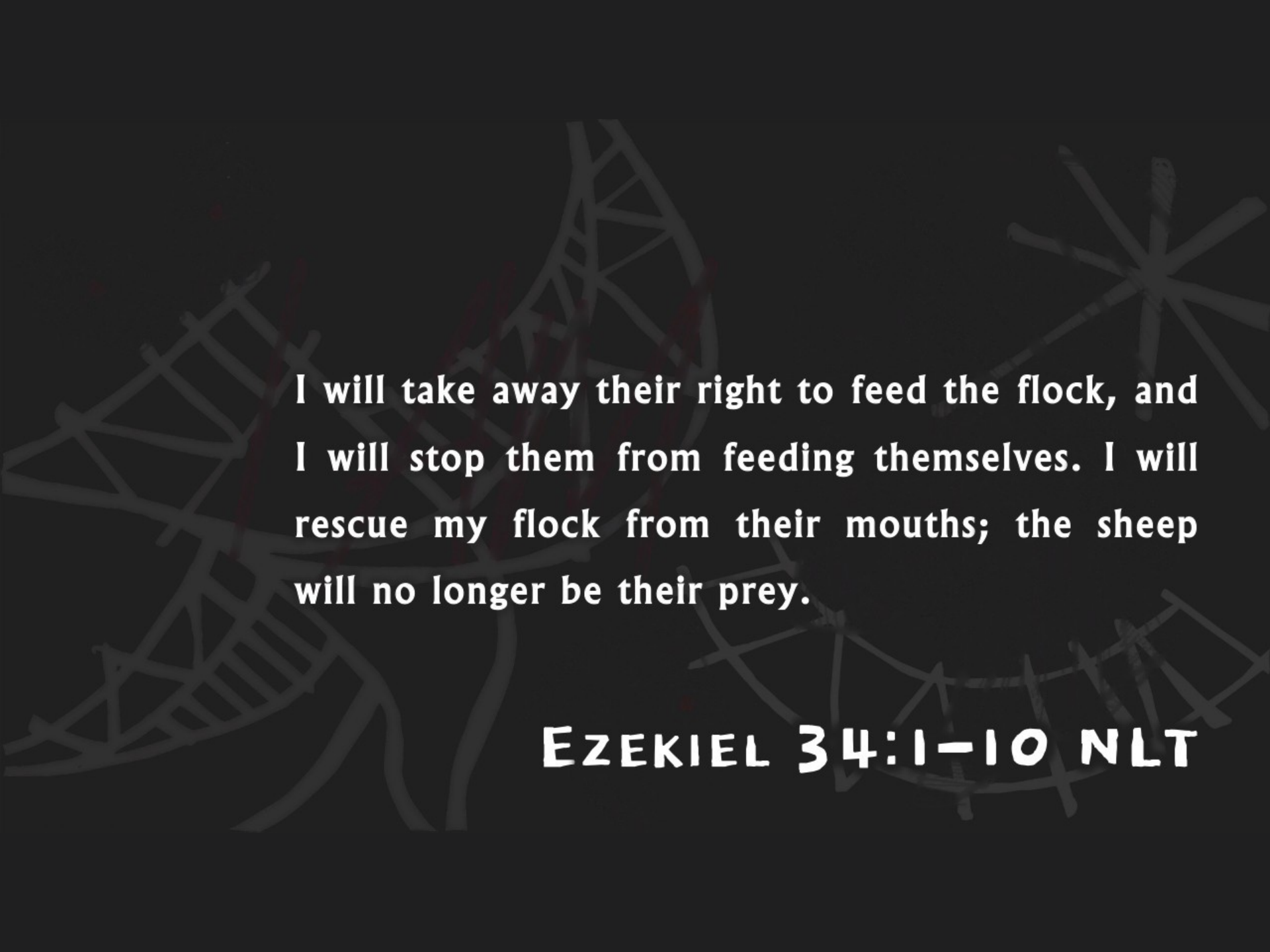
**EZEKIEL 34:1-10 NLT**

without a shepherd, and they are easy prey for any wild animal. <sup>6</sup> They have wandered through all the mountains and all the hills, across the face of the earth, yet no one has gone to search for them. <sup>7</sup> “Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord: <sup>8</sup> As surely as I live, says the Sovereign Lord, you abandoned my flock and left them to be attacked by every wild animal.

**EZEKIEL 34:1-10 NLT**

And though you were my shepherds, you didn't search for my sheep when they were lost. You took care of yourselves and left the sheep to starve. <sup>9</sup> Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>10</sup> This is what the Sovereign Lord says: I now consider these shepherds my enemies, and I will hold them responsible for what has happened to my flock.

**EZEKIEL 34:1-10 NLT**



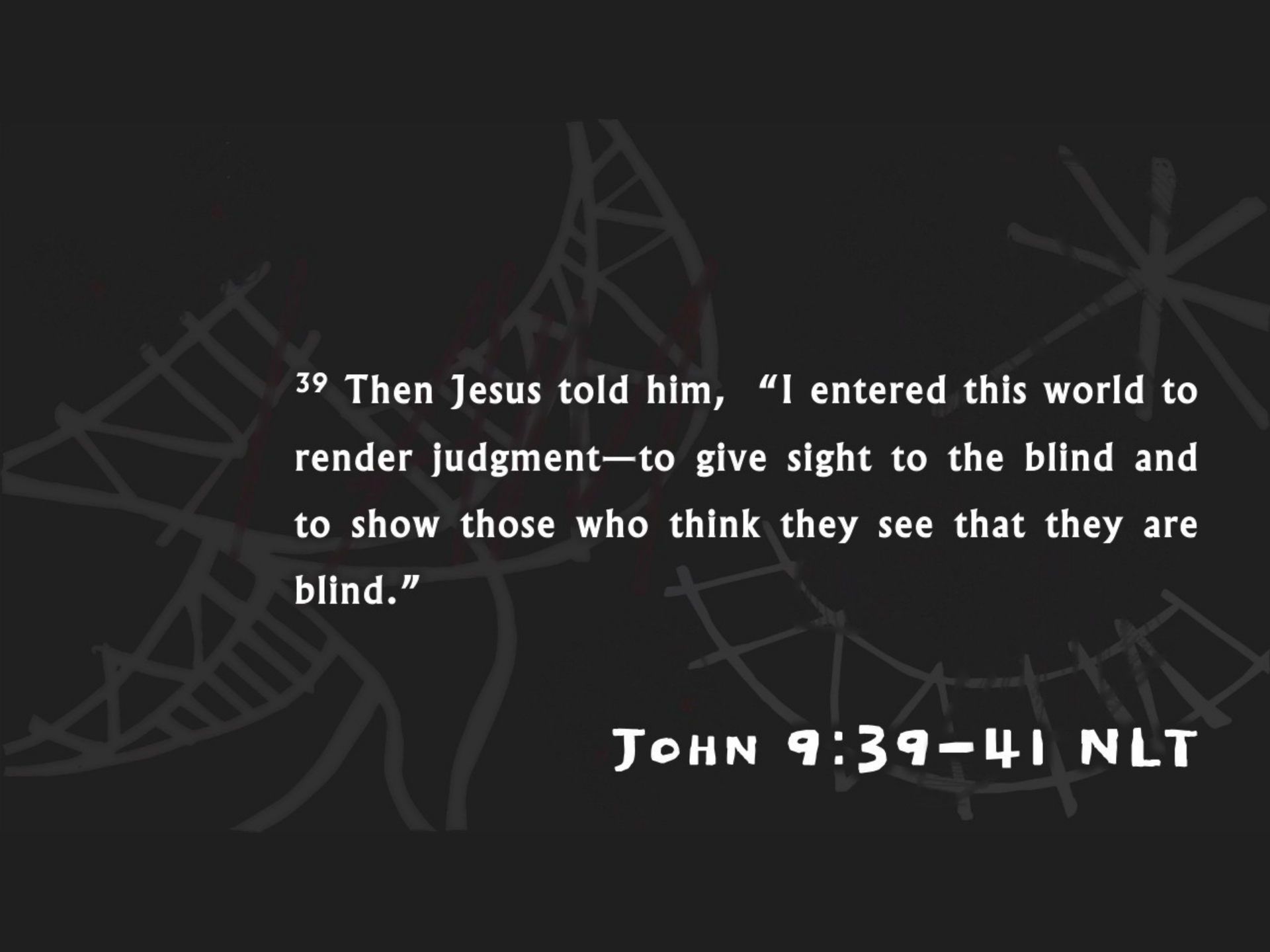
**I will take away their right to feed the flock, and  
I will stop them from feeding themselves. I will  
rescue my flock from their mouths; the sheep  
will no longer be their prey.**

**EZEKIEL 34:1-10 NLT**



THE OVERALL CONTEXT OF  
A SHEPHERD.

CULTURAL CONTEXT



**39 Then Jesus told him, “I entered this world to render judgment—to give sight to the blind and to show those who think they see that they are blind.”**

**JOHN 9:39-41 NLT**

**40 Some Pharisees who were standing nearby heard him and asked, “Are you saying we’re blind?”**

**41 “If you were blind, you wouldn’t be guilty,” Jesus replied. “But you remain guilty because you claim you can see.”**

**JOHN 9:39-41 NLT**



**40 Some Pharisees who were standing nearby heard him and asked, “Are you saying we’re blind?”**

**41 “If you were blind, you wouldn’t be guilty,” Jesus replied. “But you remain guilty because you claim you can see.”**

**JOHN 9:39-41 NLT**



AT THIS POINT IN OUR STORY, JESUS IS  
SURROUNDED BY FALSE SHEPHERDS AND JESUS  
DECLARES THAT HE IS THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

The background features faint, light-colored sketches of a fish and a starburst or star-like shape. The fish is positioned on the left side, and the starburst is on the right. The sketches are composed of simple lines and are rendered in a light gray or white color against a dark background.

WHAT DOES THE UNDERSTANDING OF THIS  
ASPECT OF JESUS CHARACTER MEAN FOR US?

**JESUS IS COMMITTED TO HIS SHEEP.**

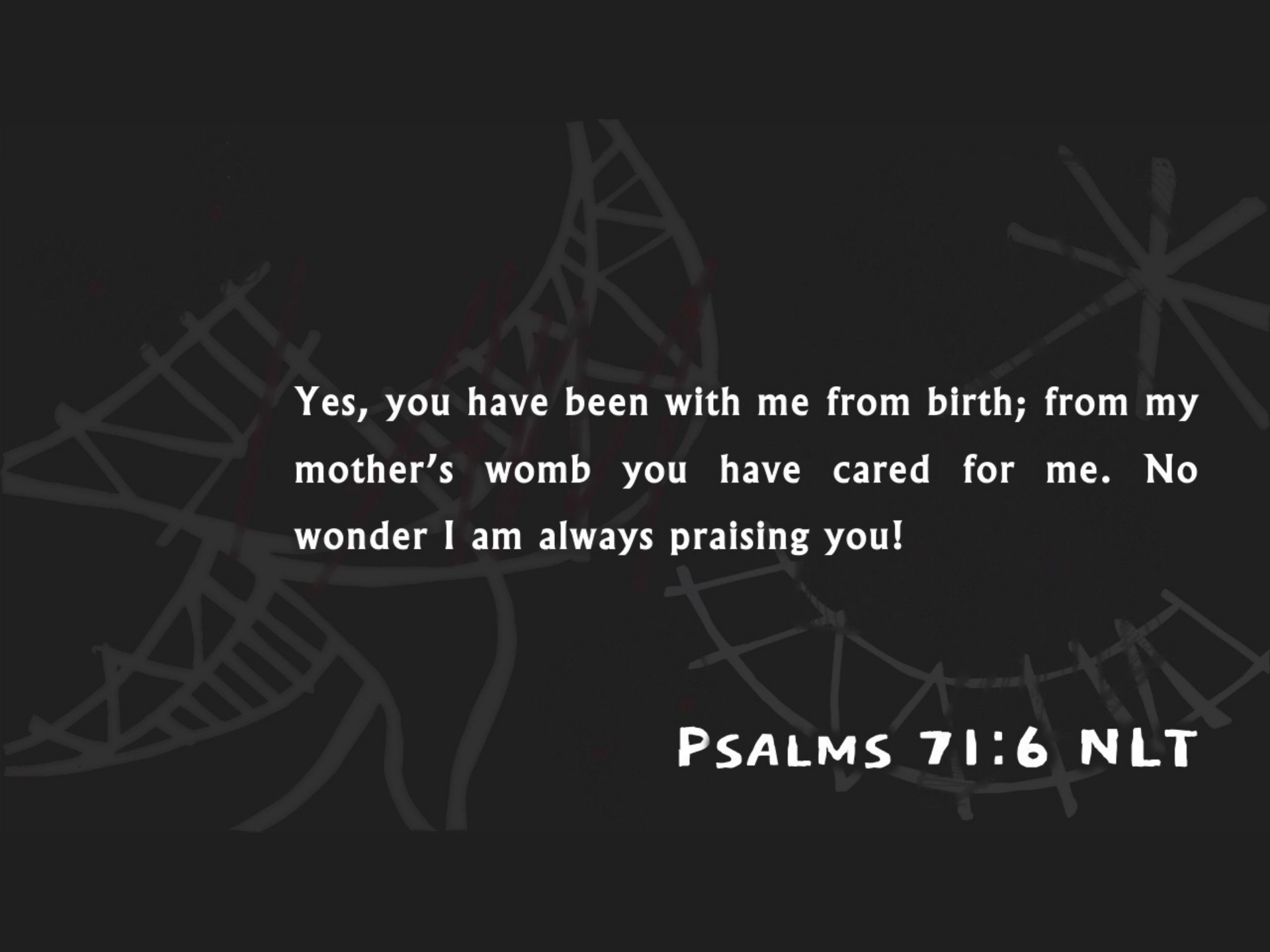
**11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.”**

**JOHN 10:11 NLT**

## JESUS IS THE OWNER OF HIS SHEEP.

<sup>12</sup> A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will abandon the sheep because they don't belong to him and he isn't their shepherd. And so the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. <sup>13</sup> The hired hand runs away because he's working only for the money and doesn't really care about the sheep.

**JOHN 10:12-13 NLT**



**Yes, you have been with me from birth; from my  
mother's womb you have cared for me. No  
wonder I am always praising you!**

**PSALMS 71:6 NLT**

## JESUS KNOWS HIS SHEEP.

<sup>14</sup> “I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me, <sup>15</sup> just as my Father knows me and I know the Father. So I sacrifice my life for the sheep.”

**JOHN 10:14-15 NLT**

**24 But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know me and understand that I am the Lord who demonstrates unfailing love and who brings justice and righteousness to the earth, and that I delight in these things. I, the Lord, have spoken!**

**JEREMIAH 9:24 NLT**





JESUS NOT ONLY KNOWS HIS SHEEP BUT HE  
DESIRES AND IS WILLING TO BE KNOWN BY THE  
SHEEP.

The background features faint, light-colored sketches of a sheep and a shepherd's staff. The sheep is on the left, and the staff is on the right. The text is overlaid on the sheep's body.

ARE YOU FOLLOWING THE LEADING OF THE  
GOOD SHEPHERD?

**11 “For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search and find my sheep. 12 I will be like a shepherd looking for his scattered flock. I will find my sheep and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on that dark and cloudy day. 13 I will bring them back home to their own land of Israel from among the peoples and nations.**

**EZEKIEL 34:11-16 NLT**

I will feed them on the mountains of Israel and by the rivers and in all the places where people live. <sup>14</sup> Yes, I will give them good pastureland on the high hills of Israel. There they will lie down in pleasant places and feed in the lush pastures of the hills. <sup>15</sup> I myself will tend my sheep and give them a place to lie down in peace, says the Sovereign Lord.

**EZEKIEL 34:11-16 NLT**

**16 I will search for my lost ones who strayed away, and I will bring them safely home again. I will bandage the injured and strengthen the weak. But I will destroy those who are fat and powerful. I will feed them, yes—feed them justice!**

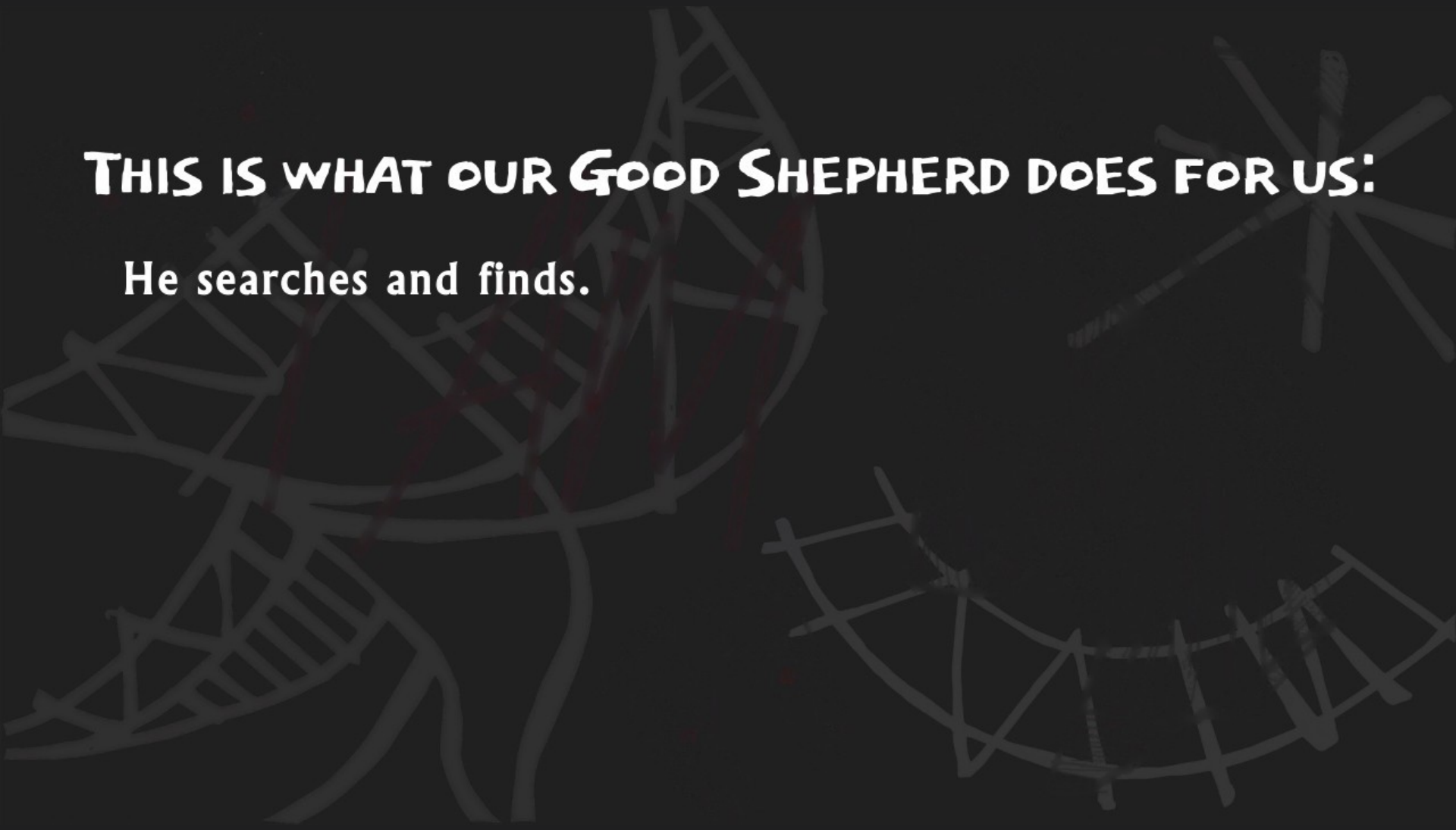
**EZEKIEL 34:11-16 NLT**

**THIS IS WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD DOES FOR US:**



**THIS IS WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD DOES FOR US:**

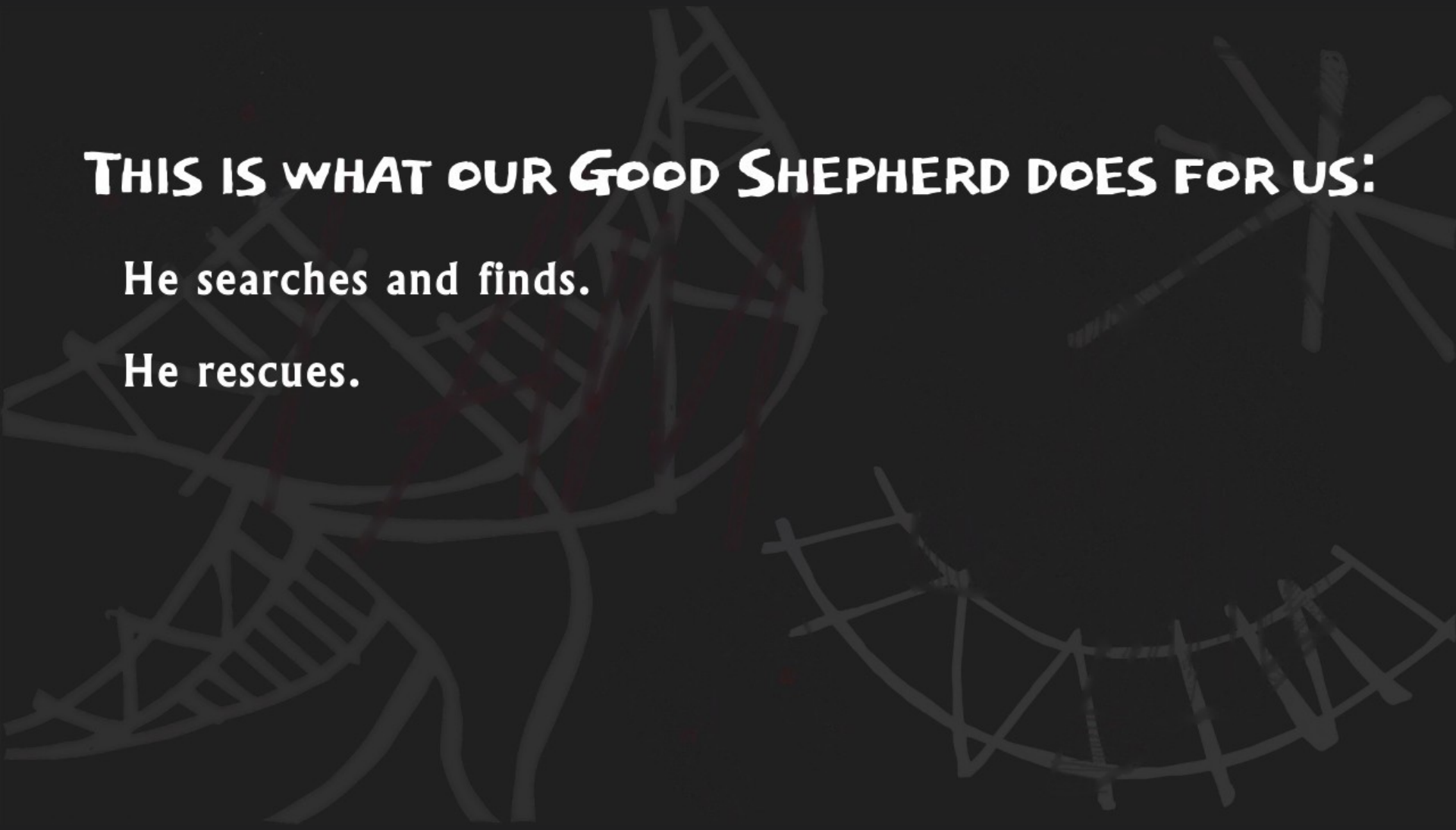
**He searches and finds.**



# **THIS IS WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD DOES FOR US:**

**He searches and finds.**

**He rescues.**



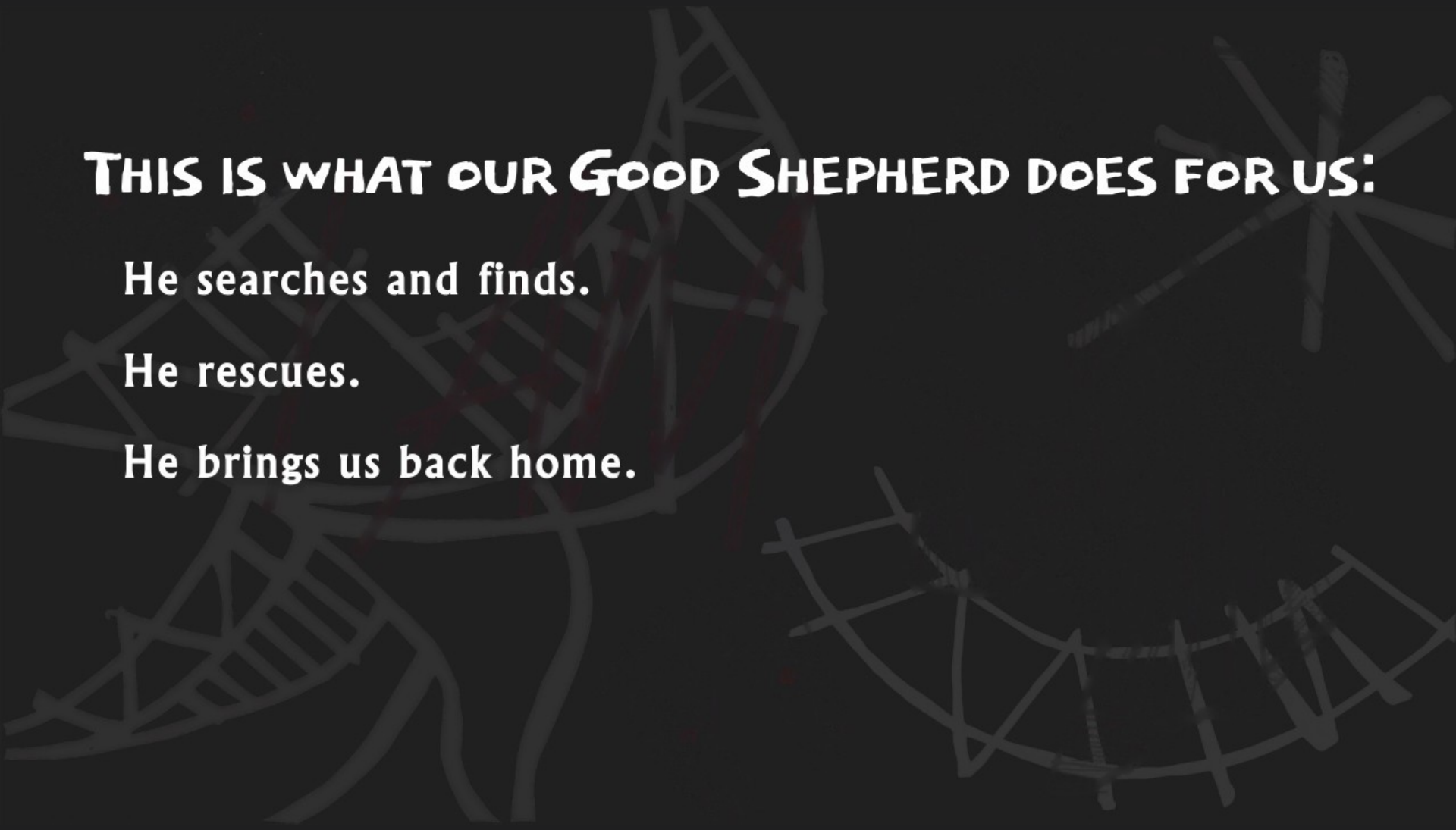


# **THIS IS WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD DOES FOR US:**

**He searches and finds.**

**He rescues.**

**He brings us back home.**



# **THIS IS WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD DOES FOR US:**

**He searches and finds.**

**He rescues.**

**He brings us back home.**

**He feeds us.**

# **THIS IS WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD DOES FOR US:**

**He searches and finds.**

**He rescues.**

**He brings us back home.**

**He feeds us.**

**He causes us to lie down in  
pleasant lush pastures.**

# **THIS IS WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD DOES FOR US:**

**He searches and finds.**

**He tends to us.**

**He rescues.**

**He brings us back home.**

**He feeds us.**

**He causes us to lie down in  
pleasant lush pastures.**

# **THIS IS WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD DOES FOR US:**

**He searches and finds.**

**He tends to us.**

**He rescues.**

**He bandages our wounds.**

**He brings us back home.**

**He feeds us.**

**He causes us to lie down in  
pleasant lush pastures.**

# **THIS IS WHAT OUR GOOD SHEPHERD DOES FOR US:**

**He searches and finds.**

**He rescues.**

**He brings us back home.**

**He feeds us.**

**He causes us to lie down in  
pleasant lush pastures.**

**He tends to us.**

**He bandages our wounds.**

**He gives strength to the  
weak.**

**34** Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

**MARK 6:34 NLT**