



# All Christians' Fellowship International

P.O. Box 1193 \* Frederick, MD 21702 USA \* Phone (301) 695-4328 \* Fax (301) 591-4013

## *Interactive Sunday School Outline*

**TOPIC:** A Haven for Healing

**TEXT:** Ezekiel 34:1-16

**Instructions** - *Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone can participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone equal opportunity to participate.*

**Introduction** – I recently heard of a Sunday school class whose members really love each other. When one of them experienced a stroke and paralysis, she became homebound. She grieved for the fellowship of the class, and they missed her as well. So the members pooled their funds and purchased a video camera. Each week, they film the class lesson and discussion, making special comments and greetings to their absent friend. For her, it's almost as good as being there.

In the King's community, the citizens are protected, loved and healed. The prophet Ezekiel offers a prophetic warning against forsaking that task.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Describe the situation in Israel according to these verses.
2. According to verses 4-5, what were five responsibilities which Israel's leaders had failed to carry out?
3. What were the tragic results of the leaders' failure to carry out their mission (vs. 1-8)?
4. Consider a church or fellowship where the leaders do carry out faithfully the responsibilities of verses 4-5. What difference does their faithfulness make in the life of that group?
5. How did the Lord react to the unfaithful shepherds' behaviour (vs. 7- 10)?

6. Count the number of times the word I occurs in verses 11-16 (God speaking). What does the repetition of that little word tell you about God?
7. What else do we learn about the Lord's character from his words in vs 11-16?
8. Although the Lord himself steps in to fill the leadership gap, it is clear from verses 1-8 that he desires his appointed leaders to do their jobs. What are your own God-given responsibilities in the church?
9. Where are you tempted to slack off in your responsibilities to God's "flock"?
10. How can you encourage the leaders of your fellowship to take more seriously their responsibilities to the weak, as suggested by this passage?
11. What is one way we can personally address one or more of the responsibilities of verse 5? (Strengthen the weak; Bring back the strays; Heal the sick; Search for the lost; Bind up the injured.)
12. What, can we you do individually to help the church carry out each of those tasks?