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### Jesus the Good Shepherd, Vellore

#### Questions

What can you see in this picture?

Can you find the Bible passages it refers to? (Luke chapter 15 verses 1-7, and Matthew chapter 18 verses 12-14, as well as John chapter 10 verses 1-18 but especially verses 14-16)

Why do you think Christians in India think of Jesus as the good shepherd? What would a *good* shepherd be like? What would a *bad* shepherd be like?

Does this look like painting of India or of somewhere else in the world? Why do you say that?

#### Background

Pictures of Jesus as the Good Shepherd are very popular in the Church of South India and are found in many churches as paintings or stained glass windows - see for example the church in picture 8.

Note how European the landscape is - it might almost be Scotland. The sheep are the white ones typical of Britain rather than the brown or mottled ones more typically found in Tamil Nadu, though they are the same shape as Indian sheep. Jesus himself looks European rather than Palestinian or Indian (see photograph 5 for more information).



