## Vision – The Staff and Sword of a Sheppard

Recently the Lord has been correcting me about things in my own life through the Word allot but so straight forward that it felt harsh, I accepted it and changed but wondered why so "to the bone".

While worshiping in church on Sunday (13 July 2008) I saw a vision of Jesus as the Sheppard, in His right hand He was holding a sheppard's staff and in His left hand He was holding the Sword of the Spirit. He looked at me and said "A Sheppard always has to have his Sword with him to ward of the wild animals but also to use."

Then He held out the Staff and Sword to me, and indicated I should grab onto them, with my left hand I grabbed the round of the Staff He was holding but with my right hand I had to grab the blade of the Sword. In my vision I could see it cutting into the flesh of my hand. Again this I thought was a bit harsh but then He explained to me that the vision is His answer about how I have been feeling.

The Lord then explained to me that the cut marks on my hand will always feel sensitive when I hold the hilt of my own Sword and the memory of that pain will make me use the Sword wisely and mercifully when I use it in the life of a 'sheep'.

## Interpretation:

The Lord showed me that as someone that has been chosen to be in and accepted the calling for ministry He has to cut more harshly when He corrects me through His word so that when I am in the position of having to correct someone through the Word I will do it with compassion and mercy knowing the pain such deep cuts can cause having felt it in my own life.

Has the Lord been cutting deep in your own life lately? Thank Him for preparing you for ministry..

Jaco Kruger 14 July 2008