

Group Discussion Questions

Profound: The Achievements of Jesus March 8 & 11, 2018

Group Discussion: Have you ever had anything stolen or had your house broken into? What was that like? How did it make you feel?

Read aloud: John 10:1-10

Do you lock anything up at home? Do you have a locked side gate in your fence? Do you lock your doors at night or during the day? Why does that make you feel safer?

Thieves and robbers engage in 3 negative activities: to kill, steal and destroy (vs. 10.) What is a thief or robber in your life? What activities kill your motivation for spiritual growth and move you further away from God? What is stealing your time with God? Are you squandering or sacrificing time that you could invest in spiritual actions, attitudes, thinking or disciplines? Where are you destroying your enthusiasm for God, anything in your actions or attitudes that is detrimental to your spiritual growth?

Jesus contrasts the thieves and robbers with the positive activities of the shepherd who is the gate.

Vs. 3 says that our Shepherd provides leadership to us because He's so familiar with us that He knows our name. Do you really live like Jesus is constantly with you? How do you acknowledge His presence with you during your day?

Vs. 9 says the Shepherd will be an on-going constant provider for us as we are living day by day. Jesus says He will lead us in and out and find pasture. Just as a shepherd would care for, grow, watch out for his sheep, Jesus is doing the same for us. How do you see Jesus at work in your daily life? What does He provide, supply, give you, externally and internally?

Vs. 10 says Jesus gives us life "abundantly." How does practicing the presence of God make your life more abundant? What do you feel is anemic in your life that God may want to make abundant? Does it involve your spiritual life, your family life, your work life?

Family Time: Ask your kids what kinds of doors are there? Ask them what the benefits of a door are? What does a door do? What does it mean when a door is open or when it is closed? What if everyone had glass doors, like a sliding glass door but on the bedrooms, classrooms at school, garage? Why would Jesus call Himself a door? If you have to go through a locked door to get into Heaven would you want Jesus at the door to unlock it and let you in? If Jesus is the door, maybe He will stand at the entrance of heaven in the doorway and hug you when you get there?