



Weekend Resources

March 29, 2026

"I Am the Gate"

Use these questions and resources during your study time or with your group.

RECAP: Every culture is telling a story - about who we are, why we're here, and what really matters. We take our questions to the culture around us, and listen for answers. But who is telling you the truth? Where do your deepest beliefs come from? In a world full of noise and competing voices, Jesus makes bold, clear claims about who He is—and what real life looks like.

MAIN POINTS

- **Jesus is the Gate to a rich and satisfying life.** However, we often experience "uncertainty fatigue" and look for a King or life manager who will simply bring order, fix our problems, and give us control.
- **Jesus redefines power and control.** The crowd on Palm Sunday wanted dominance and a show of power, but Jesus demonstrated surrender by entering on a donkey. In His Kingdom, He serves before He sovereigns, lifts the lowly, and suffers before He succeeds.
- **You must surrender to pass through the Gate.** Just like a monkey trapped because it refuses to let go of a fistful of peanuts, we are often trapped by our need to win, our demand for certainty, and our insistence on control. You cannot carry control and carry a cross at the same time.

GETTING STARTED

- When you are faced with prolonged uncertainty, do you tend to sleep less, plan harder, or try to control the variables around you?

SCRIPTURE

- [John 10:9-10; 12:12-26](#)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- On Palm Sunday, the crowd wanted a King who would secure their future and restore control, but Jesus entered on a donkey heading toward a cross. **Why do we often want what Jesus offers, but not the way He offers it?**
- Jess shared a story about monkeys getting trapped by hunters because they refuse to let go of the food inside a hollowed-out tree. **What are the "peanuts" (like a need to win, a demand for certainty, or an insistence on control) that you have a hard time letting go of?**
- Jesus says in John 12 that a kernel of wheat must fall to the ground and die to produce new life. **Why does our ego and need for control have to "die" before we can fit through the Gate and experience a rich and satisfying life?**

APPLICATION

- The message highlighted a few personas that struggled with different stresses. These personas represented people who were exhausted by trying to control their future, their marriage, their kids futures, their image all sorts of things. Which of these struggles with control do you relate to the most right now?
- Are you bringing your own agenda to the Gate and trying to force it through, or are you laying it down at Jesus' feet? Take a moment this week to pray: "Jesus, I have been asking you to manage my life. Today, I choose to follow you instead."
- Choose one practical way to practice surrender this week. Depending on your current season, this might look like trusting God to define "enough", confessing a weakness to a safe person, or choosing presence over pace with your kids