

The Door of the Sheep

Week Four



Begin this time by reading the seven “I AM” statements aloud as a group:

1) Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.” – John 6:35 (The Bread of Life)

2) When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” – John 8:12 (The Light of the World)

3) “I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.” – John 10:9 (The Door or The Gate for the Sheep)

4) I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep...“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.” – John 10:11,14 (The Good Shepherd)

5) Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?” – John 11:25-26 (The Resurrection and the Life)

6) Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. – John 14:6 (The Way and the Truth and the Life)

7)” I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener...I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.” – John 15:1, 5 (The True Vine)

With these statements, Jesus is illustrating the great truth that He is God. He is not merely a good teacher or a good person; He is God. These statements give us insight and wisdom into the nature of God.

- Which of these statements are you holding fast to this week?
- Which of these great truths about Jesus refreshes your heart today?

Watch Video:

As a group, watch the series video, *"The Gate"*

In The Word:

Read Psalm 118:15-21 and Micah 2:12-13

- What is the psalmist's attitude during the time of distress and trouble? What does your attitude tend to be when difficulties or trials hit?
- What is the source of the righteous joy and celebration? What does the celebration lead to (vs. 17, 19, 21)?
- What does the Micah 2 passage tell us about God's care and deliverance for His people?

Read John 10:1-10

- What does it mean that Jesus is the door or gate (depending on the translation) for the sheep? What is the promise that Jesus gives as the gate?
- Jesus proclaims that He is the gate (or door) and that all others who came before him were thieves and robbers. His voice alone rings true. Are there any messages of the world that you have bought into?

- Jesus came "that they may have life and have it to the full." (vs. 10). What does it mean to have the full life? How is this similar and different from the "good life" that people so often talk about? What about a believer's life makes it full or abundant?
- How is this good news for us today? How would you explain this truth to an unbeliever?

Prayer:

Jesus promises that His sheep will be saved and have the full life. Pray together, thanking God for this promise and interceding for those who have been taken captive by the thief.

Apply:

- Jesus says that His sheep know His voice and follow Him. Are you following Jesus? One of the ways in which we follow Him is by knowing His Word and doing what it says (James 1:22). This week, commit to a daily time of reading through the gospel of John.



Memorize

“I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. “

– John 10:9