



I AM the Gate

Text: John 10:1-10

¹ "Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does the picture of Jesus being the Gate (or door) to the sheepfold speak to you?
2. Like the relationship between a shepherd and his sheep, a dynamic relationship exists between Jesus and his followers. Jesus speaks to us, calls us by name, and leads us. As the sheep, we are to listen to his voice and follow him. How can we learn to know the voice of Jesus better in our lives?
3. Describe a time recently in your life when you listened to and followed another voice. What was the outcome?
4. Respond to this statement: "Our protection in life is not by surrounding ourselves in walls but in closeness to Jesus." What does this mean practically in your life?

Jesus says, "I am the Gate"; he alone provides access to eternal life, as well as freedom and protection, to those who enter through him.