

March
3/4

I
AM
the gate

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Introduction

We are now in the third week of our I AM series. In week one, we discovered Jesus is the Bread of Life from which we draw our sustenance. Last week, we found that Jesus is the Light of both the world and of life, helping us to spiritually see and walk in a darkened world. This week, we discover Jesus is the Gate we must pass through to find peace, security and rest with God. As we begin our study, take a moment to watch this short video [prairielakes.org/gatevideo] and imagine the significance of being the gate keeper for sheep in Jesus' culture.

Discussion

1. After watching the video, read **John 10:1-10** as a group. Discuss what the sheep pen and gate keeper provided for the flock.
2. In John 10:9 Jesus said, "I AM the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved." Discuss the contrast between the life of a sheep who has access to the inside of the pen and one that doesn't. How might this contrast parallel your own faith journey?
3. **Re-read John 10:10.** Discuss the ways you experience the thief attempting to steal the abundant life Jesus offers.
4. Spend some time in silent prayer responding to God. You may want to offer thanks, confess a sin, ask for help, pray for another or simply listen to what the Holy Spirit has to say. Afterwards, feel free to share openly as a group if you desire.

Do Something

1. Read the following Scriptures this week. Listen to what the Holy Spirit tells you, and then obey and trust Jesus to do what He has promised: **Mathew 11:28-30, Matthew 6:25-34, John 14:27, John 16:33, Philippians 4:4-7, Philippians 4:13.** Finish by reading **Psalm 23.**
2. Take time to think of the peace, security and rest the sheep had because the gate protected them from outside predators. Ask God to provide faith in Jesus so you can experience His peace, security and rest while dealing with your current problems.
3. This week, encourage someone who may be struggling with a problem by reminding them Jesus can provide them rest and peace amidst their current trials.
4. Pray for God to put someone in your path this week who needs Jesus the gate keeper. Share with them what you've learned about God's peace, security and rest.

Additional Resources

1. Right Now Media video studies
 - a. Matt Fry's study *I AM* [session 3 is about the good shepherd]
 - b. R.C. Sproul's *Knowing Christ: The "I Am" Sayings of Jesus*
2. Book: *Scouting the Divine: My Search for God in Wine, Wool and Wild Honey* by Margaret Feinberg