

MESSAGE RECAP

Many of us would say we want safety and security, but we often experience the opposite. In John 10, Jesus describes Himself as the Gate. If we want all that God has for us, Jesus is the door that we must go through. When we walk through that door and hear His voice, He promises three things: we will be saved, we will come and go freely and find good pastures, and we will have a rich and satisfying life. A full life means having peace, having joy, having God.

WARM UP QUESTION

Tell about a scenario or time when you feel like your life is most "full" and "abundant."

- **Read John 10:1-2.** Who is Jesus speaking to in these verses and what situation is He responding to? What does it mean to "sneak over the wall" in this context? What is the difference between a thief/robber and the shepherd? In this parable, who is the shepherd, who is the robber, and who is the sheep?
- **Read John 10:3-5.** Why is it so powerful for the shepherd to call his sheep by name? How are the sheep able to differentiate the true voice of the shepherd from the false voices of the stranger? Notice how the flock follows the voice it knows and runs away from the voice it doesn't. What does it look like for you to do the same?
- **Read John 10:6-8.** Have you ever felt like Jesus was communicating with you, but you didn't understand what He was saying? Why do you think that is? What does Jesus mean when He says, "I AM the Gate?"
- Read <u>John 10:9-10</u>. In His own words, what was Jesus' purpose in coming to this world? What does Jesus mean when He says, "a rich and satisfying life"? (Other translations say "life to the full" or "life abundant.") If this is Jesus' "purpose statement," how can you partner in that mission with Him?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

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