



HomeGroup Discussion Questions

Week 4: Jan 23-29

Doors are not often on our minds. Sure, some may catch our eye as decorative or ornate, but most are just part of the mundane hardware of life. Unless, that is, you live in a place surrounded by dangers. A well-secured door then is a great reassurance. Or, perhaps you are lost and looking for home. Finally finding *your* door is a great relief. Even ordinary doors offer protection and grant access, yet there's nothing ordinary about Jesus! He is the one and only door that saves.

Main Texts: John 10:1-10

CONNECT

1. Has a locked door ever kept you from getting to a place you needed to be? If it's helpful, think in terms of a locked car door, a forgotten combination, or a lost key.
2. What did you find most significant in this week's sermon? What questions did it leave in your mind?

LEARN

3. For context on this week's passage, read John 9. The Pharisees saw themselves as religious gatekeepers, but how does their "gatekeeping" keep people out of God's Kingdom?
4. What qualities of a *door* does Jesus claim for Himself in this week's passage? In other words, how is Jesus like a *door*?
5. What does Jesus offer those who "enter by [Him]" from verse 9 and the rest of the passage? What do you think these claims mean (e.g., "will be saved," "will go in and out and find pasture")?

APPLY

6. Jesus presents Himself in exclusive terms as *the* door rather than *a* door. He alone provides access. He alone provides security. What things can you do to remember that only Jesus can provide these in an ultimate sense? What makes it challenging for you to remember this?
7. This passage presents us as sheep who need protection and provision from someone else. How does this compare with the attitudes or values of our culture (and our own hearts) about our condition?

8. John 10 reminds us that access (i.e., the “door”) to eternal blessing and security is based on who Jesus is, not who we are. What kinds of things are required for access to exclusive places in our world? How reassuring is it that Jesus has already achieved access for us!? Talk about this with your group.

GOING DEEPER (a.k.a., Extra Credit!)

This week’s passage is part of the same episode we’ll be looking at next week, when Jesus says “I am the good shepherd” (John 10:11). There’s a rich backstory to this imagery of Jesus as the door and good shepherd, as well as of God’s people as sheep. We encourage you to commit a few minutes throughout this coming week to read about this background.

Day 1: Psalm 23

This famous psalm is attributed to King David and was likely written about 1000 B.C.

Day 2: Jeremiah 23

Jeremiah’s words are set in the final four decades before Babylon invaded and conquered the city of Jerusalem and the surrounding area of Judah (see below for dates)

Day 3: Ezekiel 34

Written during the years when Babylon had already begun invading Judah, a period of time that spanned from 605 to 586 B.C. Some from Judah, including Ezekiel’s audience (see Ezekiel 1:1-3), were already in exile.

Day 4: Psalm 78

This psalm is attributed to Asaph and may have been written during the time of King David’s reign.

Day 5: John 10