

Community Group Discussion Questions

“Open Door Policy” John 10:7-10 April 1/2

Getting Started

We continue our “I AM” series on the 7 statements of Jesus that declare His deity; we arrive at a two-part message that reveals Jesus as the “Good Shepherd”, serving as a fulfillment of Ezekiel 34:11-17. Shepherding imagery in Scripture is always a reflection of role and responsibility in the context of relationship, which is the very invitation that Jesus extends to all through Him being the “OPEN DOOR POLICY”.

As you think back over your life, who were the people who ‘shepherded’ or watched over you, looking out for your safety and best interests? How do you see God’s hand of protection and God’s heart for relationship toward you through those people?

Going Deeper

WHEN JESUS PROCLAIMS HE IS THE DOOR, HERE IS WHAT HE IS SAYING:

1. THE DOOR IS A PERSON: “I AM the door” (v. 9)

Application: Remember the Marks of Distinction: Jesus as the Door reveals the pursuit of His heart to win your heart.

Read Ezekiel 34:11. This verse show us that the Lord God is in pursuit of those who belong to Him.

Read Romans 5:6-8. These verses teach us that it was Jesus who did something wonderful for us when we were at our worst.

Share with us about a time when someone pursued a friendship or relationship with you. How did they do it? How did it feel to be wanted by that friend or boyfriend/girlfriend or spouse?

2. THE DOOR IS A PROPOSAL: “If anyone enters by me” (v. 9)

Application: Requires a Moment of Decision: Jesus as the Door reveals an invitation unto acceptance.

We live in a culture where most people believe that everyone goes to whatever form of heaven they believe in as long as they sincerely try to live out whatever their beliefs may be. Let’s see what the Bible says about this: **Read** Acts 4:12, Acts 10:43, and 1 Timothy 2:3-6.

What do these verses very clearly say?

Have you reached the place where you have placed your trust in Jesus as your Savior? Tell us how that happened for you...

If these verse are true, then what is our duty to the people who live among us at home, work, and neighborhood?

3. THE DOOR IS A PROMISE: “he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture” (v. 9)

Application: Receive the Message of Deliverance: Jesus as the Door reveals security in His presence.

Read 1 John 5:11-13.

What do these verses make absolutely clear to you?

What does this certainty of security do for you?

(possible answers: it brings me perfect peace, I don’t have to worry, strive to be better, fear that I’m not enough)

4. THE DOOR IS PROTECTION: “the thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy” (v. 10)

Application: Recognize the Method of Destruction: Jesus as the Door reveals the illegitimacy of intrusion.

Read John 10:1, 8, and 2 Peter 2:1-3. You see a theme here of Jesus and Peter describing any other person who claims to have spiritual authority being illegitimate. Anyone else who claims to speak for God will steal, kill and destroy the very life Jesus wants you to enjoy.

How can you be sure you are hearing God's truth? (possible answers: learn to study the Bible for yourself, find a church that has a high view of the Bible and teaches from it faithfully in a way you can understand, pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth to you as you read and study the Bible)

5. THE DOOR IS PROVISION: "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (v. 10)

Application: Restore the manner of Delight: Jesus as the Door reveals the quality of eternal life.

The word Jesus uses for 'life' is the Greek word 'zoe'. The normal word used for 'life' is the Greek word 'bios' where we get 'biology' from. Bios is talking about physical life, but Jesus wasn't talking about us having a perfect biological life, with perfect posture, great muscle tone, shiny white teeth, and flawless skin. The word 'zoe' means supernatural, abundant, life to the fullest, the life Adam & Eve knew before sin came in and corrupted humanity and the creation.

Which 'life' (bios or zoe) do you think most people around you are pursuing?

Which life should you be pursuing? (See Galatians 2:20, Colossians 1:27 and 3:4)

Jesus wants you to let Him live His life in you!

Group Prayer Requests

Pray for those you want to invite for one of our 6 Easter services: Friday at 7:00, Saturday at 5:00 & 7:00, Sunday at 9:00, 11:00, & 1:00