

# I Am the Good Shepherd

## Sunday message from October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

~ Notes & Reflections ~

[John 10.1-10](#)

- Jesus reveals who He is throughout the Gospel of John by 7 statements about His identity and then invites those around Him to consider the implications of His identity.

- In John 10.1-10, Jesus proclaims Himself as both the Good Shepherd of the sheep and the gate.

- ❖ Read [John 10.1-10](#) slowly.
- ❖ Consider this passage in light of a New Testament era sheepfold.
- ❖ What is the significance of Jesus' identity as the Shepherd? The Gate? What do these identities imply for Jesus' role in our lives and His interactions with us?



- If Jesus is the gate, it is His prerogative that determines who enters the sheep pen and the church.
  - ❖ How do you (as an individual) and we (as a church) take on the role of gatekeeper?
  - ❖ Who might we be shutting out of our church that Jesus would invite in? How might we need these people?
  - ❖ The pen is sturdy enough and expansive enough to hold all whom Jesus chooses.
- Jesus as the gate opens and closes with intentionality. At times, Jesus opens the gate to let the sheep out into the pastures not just for that flock's benefit, but for the benefit of other sheep.
  - ❖ How might Jesus be leading you out of the pen? How might staying impact you and others? How might going impact you and others?
- Jesus is the gate through whom the mercy and goodness of God flow. He, as the gate, is a boundary not a barrier or burden.
  - ❖ Consider The Passion Translation of John 10.9: *I am the Gateway. To enter through me is to experience life, freedom, and satisfaction.*
  - ❖ How do you view and communicate about the “sheep pen”—a dull place of drudgery or a place of life?
- Jesus reveals Himself as the Shepherd and the Gate.
  - ❖ Let's not put ourselves in the rightful place of Jesus as the gate.
  - ❖ Let us follow our Shepherd to pasture and water, so we are strengthened enough for our witness.
  - ❖ Let us receive the goodness of God flowing to us through Jesus as gift and grace.
  - ❖ Take a moment before God to reflect Jesus as Shepherd and Gate and how He may want to speak to you through these identities (perhaps conviction, challenge or comfort).
  - ❖ How might you respond? What step is Jesus inviting you to take toward Him?