

BEYOND SUNDAY

Jesus in His Own Words — 1.19.25

I AM the Gate (John 10:1-10)

Dan Perkins

- 1. Personal Experience with "In" and "Out":** Can you recall a time in your life when you felt like you were "in"—part of something special—only to realize later you were "out"? How did that impact your perspective?
- 2. Jesus as the Gate:** In John 10, Jesus refers to Himself as the gate for the sheep. What do you think this metaphor reveals about the nature of His relationship with His followers?
- 3. Metaphors and Understanding Jesus:** Jesus often uses metaphors, parables, and similes in His teachings. Why do you think these forms of communication are so effective in conveying spiritual truths?
- 4. The Role of the Pharisees:** Why do you think the Pharisees did not understand Jesus' metaphor about the gate, despite being the religious leaders of Israel?
- 5. The Meaning of "The Gate":** How do you interpret Jesus' statement, "I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved"? What does salvation through Jesus mean to you?

- 6. Jesus as Shepherd and Gate:** Jesus calls Himself both the gate and the shepherd. What is the significance of Him being both the one who provides access and the one who provides safety for His followers?

- 7. The Shepherd's Voice:** Jesus says His sheep "know His voice." How can we develop the ability to recognize Jesus' voice in a world full of distractions and competing messages?

- 8. The Cost of "Getting In":** You mentioned the idea that being "good" isn't enough to get in. How does this challenge the common notion that personal effort and morality are what make someone "acceptable" to God? What does it mean to "recognize His voice" in this context?

- 9. Understanding "Freedom" in Christ:** You mentioned that the fenced playground allowed children to experience more freedom. How can the concept of spiritual freedom through Jesus be similar to this idea of a fenced playground?

- 10. Recognizing Jesus' Voice:** In what ways do you recognize the voice of Jesus in your life? What are some practical ways to ensure you are following Him and not being misled by "thieves" or false voices?