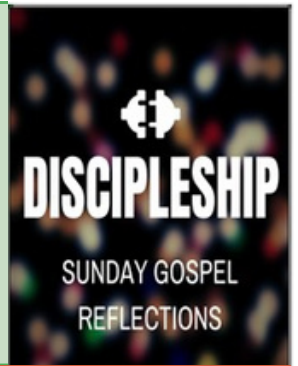


In preparation for April 26, 2026, Fourth Sunday of Easter

Theme -The Gate to Abundant Life

“Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.”

John 10:1-10 (Verses 7-9)



Adults

1. In John's gospel today, Jesus affirms his pivotal role in the relationship between the people and God. He is the shepherd who is there to guide you and we are to trust. Why can it sometimes be so difficult to put our trust in Jesus the shepherd?
2. Jesus is also more than just the shepherd. He is also the "gate." What does Jesus offer to those who enter through the gate?
3. Who are some of the "thieves," who come to steal, slaughter, and destroy in your life today?

Obstacles for living out the Gospel: Lack of trust; our own will.

Teens

1. What makes a gate important? What happens when there's no gate? What does Jesus mean when He calls Himself the gate instead of the shepherd first?
2. Jesus says the sheep recognize the shepherd's voice. What voices compete for your attention every day? When have you followed a voice or influence that didn't lead where you thought it would?
3. What are some modern "fake gates" we are encouraged to walk through to find happiness or freedom?

Obstacles to living out the Gospel: Not being able to distinguish Jesus' voice from all the others that are telling us how to act, what's cool, or what happiness looks like (friends, social media, culture).

Children

1. Why do you think the sheep recognized the Good Shepherd's voice? Do you spend enough time with Jesus to recognize his voice? Name a few ways you can spend more time with Jesus so you will know his voice.
2. How can you listen for Jesus' voice today? Share about a time that you accepted an invitation that you felt was from Jesus? How did you know the "voice" was from Jesus?
3. What are some "stranger voices" that might lead you the wrong way? Have you ever accepted an invitation to something that you wished you didn't? What happened? If you are in a situation like this, who would you call to come get you?

Obstacles to living out the Gospel: Lack of prayer life, getting too caught up in other things that take you away from your faith. Being influenced by non-believers.