

## I AM... THE GATE

As preached on Sunday, August 25<sup>th</sup>

**Read:** John 10:1-10

1. In the first five verses of this morning's passage, Jesus tells a parable. Even after the parable is done, Jesus continues to use shepherding images in what he teaches. Do you think this imagery helped or hurt the impact of this teaching on his listeners? Why, or why not?
2. Is there a more modern image that might have the same illustrative impact in our world today?
3. Jesus says, "I am the gate" in v.9. What type of gate does he mean? How would you summarize the physical significance of what Jesus describes?
4. What is the spiritual significance of what Jesus describes? How does Jesus' teaching compare with the ideas that many in our culture today have of salvation?
5. We covered three benefits of entering through Jesus on Sunday. Each are found in v.9. What is the first? Take a moment to read John 20:30-31. How does the first benefit from this week's passage fulfill the purpose that John describes in 20:30-31?
6. Two additional benefits are listed in v.9. What are they? What is different about these two in comparison to the first?
7. Describe a time when you experienced one of these benefits firsthand. How did it feel?
8. If we believe what Jesus reveals of himself in this week's passage, how should it affect the way that we live? Do you need to make any adjustments in your own life?