



I AM (Part 2) - “The Way Out (and Into)”

John 14:6-7 NIV

6 Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. 7 If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

John 5:39-40 NIV

39 “You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. These are the very Scriptures that testify about me, 40 yet you refuse to come to me to have life.”

John 10:1-10 NIV

1 “Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. 2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. 3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. 5 But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger’s voice.”

6 Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.

7 Therefore Jesus said again, “Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. 8 All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

Key Points

- *If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus.*
- *We tend to dismiss the observations we don’t readily understand, but we need to be able to notice without having to understand.*
- *We’d rather control than trust.*
- *We attempt to find a way of life that we can control and ultimately preserve.*
- *Jesus is the gate so He is the way.*
- *We learn to trust by walking with Him.*

READ

Open your time together by reading the Scripture passages on Page 1. Then, take a moment to consider what you just read:

- Read John 14:6-7. How does Jesus' declaration as "the way" influence our personal relationship with him? How can we deepen our connection to Jesus as our guide and pathway to God?
- Read John 5:39-40. How can we strike a balance between studying the Scriptures for knowledge and studying them for transformation? What role does encountering Jesus personally play in our understanding of and engagement with the Bible?
- Read John 10:1-10. What does Jesus' statement about providing abundant life through the gate mean for our daily lives as Christians? How does trusting in Jesus as the gate affect our attitudes, choices, and priorities?

REFLECT

- What are some common reasons why we tend to dismiss observations we don't readily understand? How might this tendency hinder our growth and understanding?
- How does the desire for control often manifest in our lives, both personally and in our relationships with others?
- Why do you think we are inclined to seek a sense of control in our lives rather than embracing trust in God?

RESPOND

- Can you share an example from your own life when you tried to control a situation instead of trusting in God? What were the results?
- In what areas of your life do you struggle the most with trusting God rather than trying to control outcomes? How can you surrender those areas to Him?
- Jesus mentions that he came so that his sheep may have life and have it abundantly. What does abundant life look like to you, and how does Jesus as the gate facilitate this kind of life?

PRAY

Close your time together with prayer requests. Ask how you can pray, support, and lift one another up. Pray over these requests collectively or by breaking into prayer partners.