



*"Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he." – John 4:26
In each of these statements, Jesus claims to be God, the Great I AM.
In this series, **we want to meet Jesus.***

October 15 – I AM the Gate for the Sheep (John 10:7, 9)

Main Idea: Jesus is the only opening to God. Through Jesus, people will enter God's kingdom.
Heart Change: We would meet Jesus as the mediator between God and man.

Open

How much interaction have you had with sheep? What was that interaction like?

In our passages for this week and next week, Jesus uses illustrations involving sheep, shepherds, and caring for a flock to highlight things about himself and point out some of the errors of the Jewish religious leaders.

Reflect

In order to get some context for Jesus comments, please have someone read John 9:35-10:10. (If you need to please go back and read the beginning of John 9 to understand what is happening.)

What beliefs are the Jewish leaders demonstrating in kicking out the blind man from the synagogue?

Jesus sees this as a teachable moment. What truths about God and life is he trying to communicate to the people listening?

What is it about the analogy of sheep that connects to his audience?

Apply

Based on the truths about God and life from this passage (see the question above), what analogy would you use to communicate these same truths to an audience today?

Jesus closing statement in verse 10 is that "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." Here is Jesus is talking about those who follow Jesus have life and life abundantly through the Holy Spirit, which he has given us. In smaller groups take a few moments to read Galatians 5:16-26 and answer these questions together. When you are done take a few moments to ask the prayer question and pray for one another.

1. What is the connection between abundant life and the Holy Spirit?
2. What does it look like in our daily lives to "keep in step with the Spirit?"

Prayer Question – If you could ask the Holy Spirit for more of one these fruit in your life, which would it be? After each person has shared, please take a moment to pray for that person before moving on to the next person.