

Do you know the Gate and the Good Shepherd? Do you know Jesus? The only way to know Him is to put your trust in Him for your salvation, asking Him to forgive your sins, and promising to follow Him for the rest of your life. Not only can we know the Good Shepherd, Jesus, but we can know Him more and more. Keep reading your Bible, listening for His voice. He speaks through His Word, the Bible. And, every day – throughout the day – pray to the Good Shepherd. He wants you to talk with Him, to share how you’re feeling, and to ask Him for big things.

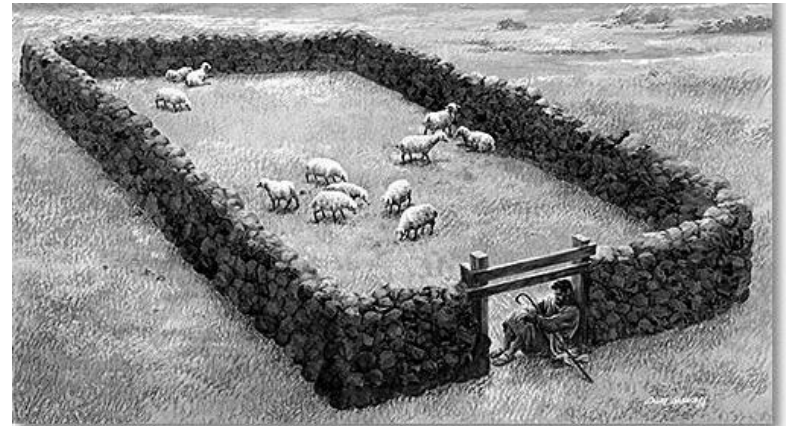
Name

27 JESUS: GATE & SHEPHERD

So far, we have learned that Jesus is the Bread of Life and the Living Water, satisfying the hunger and quenching the thirst of our souls. We have also learned that Jesus is the Light of the World and the Vine, providing everything we need to thrive in life. Today, we will learn two more things that Jesus is.

“I AM THE GATE”

Jesus and His followers lived in a farming world. Many farmers in that day had sheep. At night, shepherds would lead their sheep into a sheepfold, often a corral made out of rocks, to protect the sheep from predators like wolves, lions, and bears. Most sheepfolds didn’t have a gate made of wood or metal. The shepherd was the gate, sitting in the doorway, protecting his precious sheep.



One day, Jesus said this to His listeners: “I tell you the truth, I am the Gate for the sheep. All who came before Me were thieves and robbers. But the true sheep did not listen to them. Yes, I am the Gate. Those who come in through Me will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures. The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life” (John 10:7-10).

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE REVIEW & MEMORIZE

Genesis	1 Kings	Ecclesiastes
Exodus	2 Kings	Song of Songs
Leviticus	1 Chronicles	Isaiah
Numbers	2 Chronicles	Jeremiah
Deuteronomy	Ezra	Lamentations
Joshua	Nehemiah	Ezekiel
Judges	Esther	(new) Daniel (dan-yul)
Ruth	Job	(new) Hosea (ho-zay-uh)
1 Samuel	Psalms	(new) Joel
2 Samuel	Proverbs	(new) Amos (ay-mus)

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Leader Signature

“ROAR” (that’s lion for “Well done!”)

..... (name of Clubber) has finished
“Jesus: Gate & Shepherd.” Well done!

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Leader Signature

MEMORIZE

John 10:9-10– “I (Jesus) am the Gate. Those who come in, through Me, will be saved. They will come and go freely and will find good pastures. The thief’s purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life.”

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Leader Signature

Jesus wants us, His sheep, to thrive in life, and the only way to thrive is by trusting and following Jesus, by allowing Him to be our Gate. If we follow Him, He will protect us from the “thief,” from those that want us to lose our way and to struggle in life.

“I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD”

After Jesus tells His listeners that He is the Gate for the sheep, He says this: “I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd sacrifices His life for the sheep. A hired hand will run when he sees a wolf coming. He will abandon the sheep because they don’t belong to him and he isn’t their shepherd. And so, the wolf attacks them and scatters the flock. The hired hand runs away because he’s working only for the money and doesn’t really care about the sheep. I am the Good Shepherd. I know My own sheep, and they know Me” (John 10:11-14).



MEMORIZE

John 10:11,14 – “I (Jesus) am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd sacrifices His life for the sheep. ... I am the Good Shepherd. I know My own sheep, and they know Me.”

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Leader Signature

So, not only is Jesus the Gate, protecting His sheep and making a way for them to thrive in life, but He is a Good Shepherd. As we learned when we memorized Psalm 23, a shepherd loves His sheep. He leads them to grass and to water. He protects them from predators. He checks them over, looking for ticks or other pests. He also helps them get back on their feet when they roll over and can’t get up. It sounds funny, but if a sheep rolls onto its back and can’t get back up, it will eventually die. It needs its shepherd to help it. Jesus wants to do all of this for us, because He loves us.



You see, as the verses above talk about, the Good Shepherd knows His sheep. He doesn’t just lead them, He has a relationship with them. Because of this, the sheep know His voice. Sometimes, more than one flock of sheep would meet at a watering hole. To us, this seems challenging to split up the different flocks after they’re done drinking. But, because they know their shepherd’s voice, he simply starts walking and calls them ... and they follow. Easy peasy!