

STUDENT STUDY GUIDE

SESSION 4 – I AM THE DOOR

JOHN 10:1–10

SESSION FOCUS

In this session, Jesus describes Himself with a simple but striking image: **“I am the door.”** Using familiar shepherd imagery, Jesus speaks about access, safety, belonging, and life. He contrasts Himself with voices and paths that promise much but ultimately harm or fail to protect.

This study invites you to reflect on **where you look for security, meaning, and life**, and to consider what it means to enter, remain, and live through Christ.

OPENING REFLECTION

Before reading the passage, pause for a moment of honest reflection.

- Where do you usually turn when you feel uncertain, afraid, or in need of direction?
- What makes you feel safe or secure?
- What do you believe leads to a “full” or meaningful life?

(You may want to jot down a few thoughts before continuing.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Read **John 10:1–10** slowly and carefully.

As you read, pay attention to:

- The contrast between the shepherd and others

- Repeated words like *door*, *voice*, *life*, and *sheep*
- What Jesus promises to those who enter through Him

Read more than once if possible. Notice what stands out or raises questions.

KEY IDEA

Jesus does not point to the door—He is the Door.

Through Him alone come safety, belonging, and true life.

PART 1: SHEEP, SHEPHERDS, AND VOICES

Jesus uses the image of sheep who recognize their shepherd’s voice. This image highlights trust, relationship, and dependence.



Reflection Questions

- What does this image suggest about the relationship between sheep and shepherd?
- Why is recognizing the right voice so important?
- What voices compete for people's trust today?

Personal Notes:

PART 2: FALSE PROMISES AND EMPTY DOORS

Jesus speaks of others who come to steal, kill, and destroy. These are voices or paths that promise life but ultimately bring harm.

Reflection Questions

- What kinds of promises do false “doors” make?
- Why are people often drawn to them?
- Where do you see this dynamic at work in everyday life?

Personal Notes:

PART 3: “I AM THE DOOR”

By calling Himself the Door, Jesus is claiming to be the way into safety, freedom, and belonging with God.

A door both **invites** and **protects**—it allows entry while keeping danger out.

Reflection Questions

- What does a door provide for those inside?
- Why might the idea of one door feel challenging or uncomfortable?
- How does this statement reshape how you understand Jesus?

Personal Notes:

PART 4: ENTERING AND LIVING THROUGH CHRIST

Jesus says that whoever enters through Him will be saved, will come in and go out, and will find pasture. This language points to freedom, provision, and care—not restriction.

Reflection Questions

- How is freedom different from having no limits at all?
- What kind of life do you think Jesus is describing here?
- How does trust relate to freedom?

Personal Notes:



PART 5: LIFE TO THE FULL

Jesus contrasts His purpose with that of false guides: **“I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”**

Abundant life is not merely comfort or success—it is life shaped by relationship with Christ.

Reflection Questions

- How do people usually define a “good” or successful life?
- How might Jesus’ definition be different?
- What do you think abundant life looks like in everyday faithfulness?

Personal Notes:

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Take a few quiet moments.

- What doors have you walked through looking for life or security?
- Which of those doors delivered what they promised—and which did not?
- What would it mean for you to trust Jesus more fully as the Door?

Personal Response:

CLOSING PRAYER

In your own words, or silently, pray for:

- **Trust in Christ rather than false sources of security**
 - **Wisdom to recognize which voices to follow**
 - **Openness to the life Jesus offers**
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OPTIONAL TAKE-HOME PRACTICE

This week: • Re-read **John 10:9–10** each day

- Notice where you seek safety or fulfillment
 - Ask yourself: **Which door am I choosing today?**
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FINAL THOUGHT

Many doors promise life, freedom, and security.

Jesus does not simply offer these things—**He is the way into them.**

To enter through Him is to step into a life marked by trust, belonging, and care.

