

# John 10:1-42

Tuesday Bible Study: Week 15



May 12, 2026

1. Jesus begins with a contrast: the one who enters by the gate is the shepherd, but “the one who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit” (10:1). What distinguishes a true shepherd from a false one? How can you tell trustworthy spiritual leadership?
2. Jesus says, “The sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out” (10:3). What does it mean to you that the Good Shepherd knows his sheep *by name*? How have you experienced God’s particular, personal knowledge of you as an individual?
3. Jesus declares, “I am (*ego eimi*) the gate” (10:7, 9). Anyone who enters through him “will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.” Is it significant that Jesus is not just the shepherd, but the point of entry itself?
4. Several times, Jesus says he will lay down his life of his own volition (10:15, 17–18). Where do you see this kind of sacrificial love at work in the world, or in your own life?

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5. The hired hand, Jesus says, “sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—because he does not care for the sheep” (10:12–13). What does this say about the importance of our motivations when we seek to serve?
  
6. Jesus says, “I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd” (10:16). What does this verse suggest about the scope of God’s purpose? How should it shape the way we think about how we are called to serve those who are not yet members of the Body of Christ?
  
7. At the Festival of Dedication, the crowd presses Jesus: “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly” (10:24). Jesus answers, “I have told you, and you do not believe” (10:25). Have you ever felt like you needed a straight answer from God? Have you ever had to learn to listen differently, or even to take “no” for an answer?
  
8. Jesus says, “My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand” (10:27–28). He adds that the Father’s hand holds them too (10:29). What does this promise mean to you? How does it speak into seasons of doubt or fear?