

Online Bible Study
Doors – Jesus is the Door

A door is a pathway to opportunity. We walk through doors everyday. Some days we open doors to new relationships, or new business. Other days we close the doors on activities, relationships, and sometimes even on God. God created a pathway for us to know Him. He sent Christ to be the open door for us to know God and the power of His love.

The door that we are looking at today is not a door that leads to something. This is a door that doesn't lead to a place, or a space, but rather a person. This is the door that leads us to someone. This door leads to truth and hope. It's not a hope in something, but a hope for someone. It's a deeper hope. Jesus is the someone you can hope in when you've lost something you hoped for. Jesus is the door to a new life, and to eternal life.

God sent Jesus to the world to be the Way for us to know the Father. Prior to the coming of Christ, there was no freedom from sin. Jesus came and died a horrific death, even becoming sin, so that we might know the power and freedom and hope that can only come through a new life with Christ. Jesus came to bring us a "hope that does not disappoint" (Romans 5:5).

As you approach this study, quiet yourself from the busyness of the Easter week. Give yourself some space to work through this study. Take your time with it. Work through this study slowly.

John 14:6 records Jesus saying these words: "I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father but through me." Consider Jesus as your Way, your Truth, and your Life. What do these three characteristics of God mean to you?

Read John 10:7-10 and then answer the following questions.

Therefore Jesus said again, "I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Jesus says He is the gate to find pasture, but the thief is looking to steal and kill and destroy. What does the thief want to do in your life? Specifically, what truth of Jesus does He want to steal? What fruit of the Spirit does He want to destroy in you? What area in your life is most vulnerable to the thief?

Jesus says He has come to give us life, and life abundantly. The thief may have taken things from us. The thief may have taken your hope in something, or smashed your plans. Jesus wants to give you life, and life abundantly. What does Jesus mean by saying He wants to give you life, and life abundantly?

Many times we are tempted to believe that Jesus has come to give us material things. Or that Jesus has come to take care of our problems, or to make us safe. But Jesus cares more about our character than our comfort. The life that Jesus desires for us may be different than what the material world offers. How have you seen Jesus bring His abundant life to your heart and home?

It is through the death and resurrection of Christ that we can now live in this abundant life. What steps toward this abundant life is Jesus calling you to take today? What specific characteristics is He leading you to today? Which fruit of the Spirit does He want to grow in you today?

Jesus is our Savior and Lord. We know that truth and can testify to it. As you close this study take a few minutes to read Psalm 22. As you read through this Psalm notice the "crucifixion" language. Notice how many prophecies are written in this Psalm and were fulfilled with the crucifixion of Christ. Also note that this Psalm was written 1000 years before Christ. Crucifixion was not even invented as this Psalm was being written. From the cross, Jesus quotes this first phrase of the Psalm. "My God, My God. Why have You forsaken me?"

Jesus didn't say these words because His Father had abandoned Him. No Father turns away from their son in their time of deepest need. Jesus said these words knowing that His hearers would know this Psalm. He knew the Jewish followers would have these Psalms (songs) memorized, and He speaks the first line of this Psalm knowing they would repeat the rest of these words and recognize that Jesus is the fulfillment of Scripture. Jesus is the Messiah. Close with a prayer of thanksgiving for the amazing love and grace of our Door, Jesus Christ.
