

Connecting the Sunday Sparkle at Hearsall Baptist with the Daily Dust of Life

Welcome

- Have you ever been locked out of your own home? How did it make you feel? How did you solve the problem?

Worship

- Read 1 Peter 2:19 - 25
- How does God respond to sheep who stray?
- Thank God for his goodness to us all.

Word

Read John 10: 1 - 2

- Have you ever felt spiritually robbed? How did this theft come about?
- What is it about dubious spiritual messages that should ring alarm bells for us?
- Optional further reflection: If you would like to consult other verses on this important theme, you could also read: Proverbs 26:28; Jeremiah 23: 16 - 22; Ezekiel 22:27 - 29; 2 Timothy 4:3; James 1:27. Group members may share other verses about recognising false teaching.

Read John 10: 3 - 6

- Discuss how we might hear the voice of the Good Shepherd.
- What does this tell us about the nature of the relationship between the Good Shepherd and the sheep?
- To what extent does this reflect your own experience??

Read John 10: 7 - 9

- Jesus is now the gate - or the **door** is a better translation of the Greek. How do you go through this Door?
- It seems a typical sheep uses this Door habitually. What do the two places of *being in* and *going out* suggest about our spiritual life?
- Discuss what it means to go through the Door during a typical day.

Read John 10:10

- What words would you use to describe the quality of your own life? Would 'abundant' be one of these words?
- What is Jesus seeking to suggest about our lives by using this word? As you answer this, compare different translations of this verse.
- Often people live from a mentality of scarcity and selfishness. What prevents us from living from a sense of plenty and community? Remember the thief and the robber of verse 1!
- What is the key difference between the abundant life Jesus offers and a life of luxury a person may enjoy?

Response

- Abundant living is probably not a solitary thing! Plan an activity for your group - or a refinement of its regular life - that celebrates and shares abundant life.