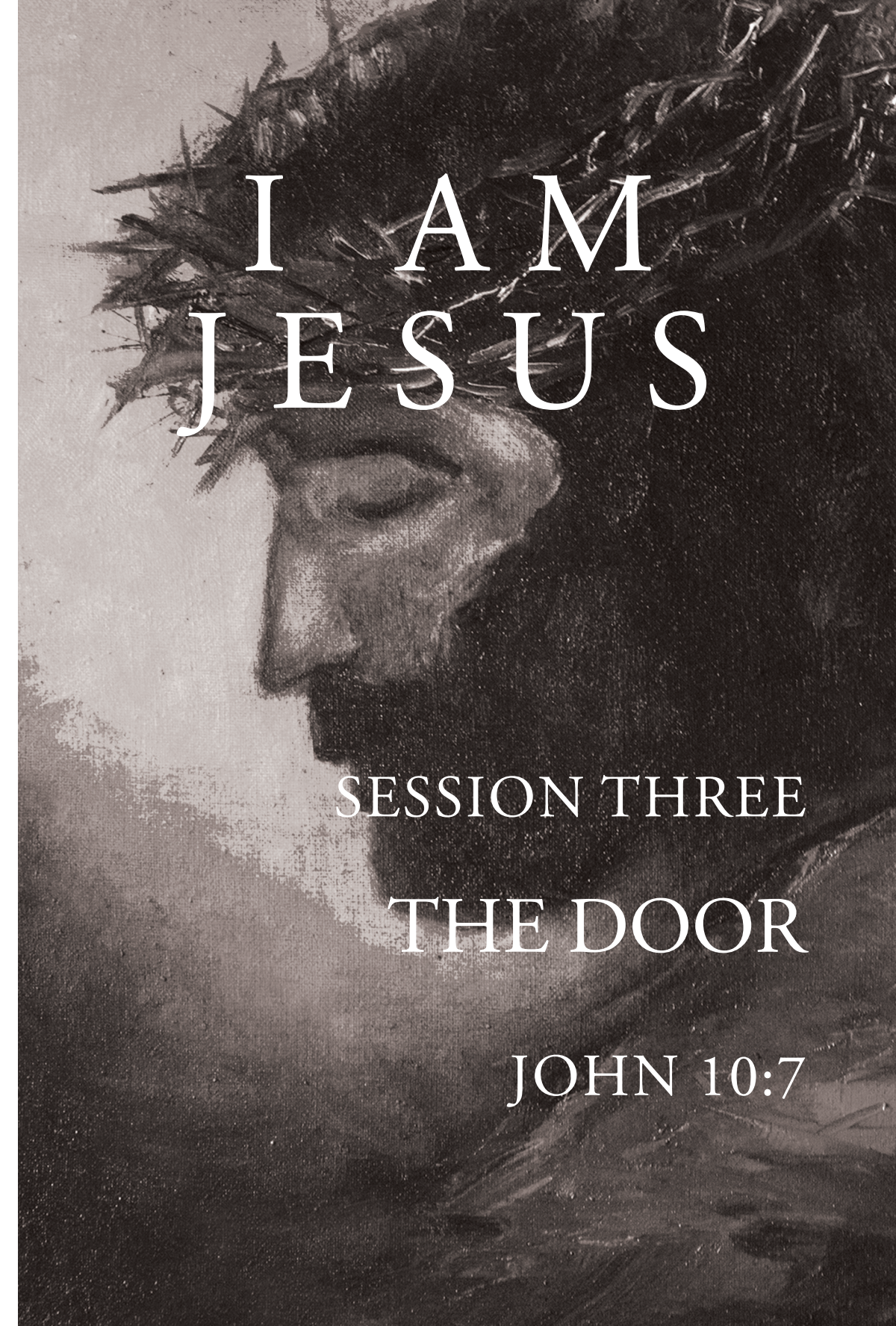




I AM JESUS

SESSION THREE

THE DOOR

JOHN 10:7



CONNECT



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During each session, we will begin with a few questions to help you connect with and get to know one another. Please take a few minutes and answer at least one of the following questions:

- Explain why you like the door to your office/room open or closed when you are inside.
- Share a story from your past when a pet ran out of your front door or gate in your yard.



DVD SESSION

This study is designed to be used with an accompanying video teaching. Please play DVD Session Three. Use the space below for notes, questions, or comments you want to bring up in the discussion.





GROW

In the following section, you will explore Bible passages and take part in discussions to help expand your knowledge on the topic of this session. If time is a concern, please choose just a few of the questions to answer and discuss in your group.

Go around the group and allow everyone to share what they found interesting from the video lesson this week.

- 1 What do you think is the purpose of a sheep pen and its door?

Read John 10:1-10

2 How does Jesus describe Himself in this passage? What is His purpose and how does it benefit the sheep?

Read Ephesians 6:10-12 and 1 Peter 5:8

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3 What is the goal of the enemy/thief/devil? How do we even begin to combat this problem?

4 According to the above passages, what happens to a sheep who is not in the protection of the door? What does the sheep need to do in order to receive the benefit of the door?

We were created by God to be free people, to serve as the caretakers and masters over His creation. To be imprisoned, to be enslaved—that is not our natural state. That is not how God created us to be.

—Kyle Welch

Read 2 Samuel 22:3-4, Psalm 138:7, and 2 Thessalonians 3:3

5 According to these passages, what is one of the purposes of God?

6 How have you received God's protection in the past? Describe the hope, peace, and comfort you felt from this protection. How does this give you encouragement for the future?

Read Deuteronomy 31:6, Matthew 28:20b, and Romans 8:31

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7 How do these passages bring you encouragement and hope against the enemy's attack?

8 How might we, as Jesus' sheep, learn to be more attentive to His voice, and less easily deceived by those who seek to harm us?

9 Describe how you understand God's protection for you. What is something that you can do to better trust in God's protection?



Deeper Study

Read John 10:3-5 and John 16:13

10 How do these passages connect with one another?

11 We are to live a life that is full of God; a Spirit-filled life as it is described in John 10:10. What do you think a Spirit-filled life looks like? How do we live a Spirit-filled life?

12 How does a person who is living a Spirit-filled life truly trust in the protection that Jesus offers?

13 What are some ways in which you can practice hearing from the Shepherd throughout your day? How does the Holy Spirit speak to you?

14 What does obedience look like for you?



IMPACT

One of the core principles in Life Groups is to have an impact on the community around us. In the following section, we have given you some ideas of how you can have an impact in the community both as a group and individually. Please go through and discuss how you can impact the community around you with the gospel.

- As a group, think of some people you can invite to your Life Group that would benefit from a community of believers. As followers of Jesus in a Life Group, you've already walked through "the door" into a new place of safety and security. But there are many who haven't had that opportunity. Brainstorm and pray about who you and your group could invite to your Life Group so that they too can begin to experience God's goodness and love.

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You may also use this time to fill out the circles with names of people who could experience support and love in the manner God intended us to experience it. You've experienced this love and support; now pray for someone to experience that same support and love.

Family
(immediate or extended)

Familiar
(neighbors, kids, sports teams, school, and so forth)

Friends

Fun
(games, hobbies, hangouts)

Firm
(work)

● Confession is not something we are used to practicing in Christian culture. In fact, many of us who come from Catholic backgrounds may have some misunderstandings from our upbringing, and carry it into what we believe today. So, for those of you who wonder what confession is, simply put, it's verbalizing your sin to God. In its literal sense from the original Greek, it means to admit, to acknowledge, to reveal, to disclose your sin. In other words, you don't just ignore it, you confess it.

34 This week, we have learned that we can trust Jesus as "the door," who allows us to enter into His presence, and experience His protection and love. We may even feel unworthy of entering into His presence because of our own brokenness. This is where confession can help us better understand His love and grace toward us.

Confession is NOT telling God something He doesn't already know. God is omnipotent and He already knows everything. In fact, He also knows what you don't want to confess. He knows everything you have ever thought, said, and done. God knows ... and He loves you! We don't have to pretend to move forward from this lesson as if everything is okay. This time, we can actually be okay and made complete by confessing our sin to God.

On your own, set some time apart this coming week for a one-on-one with Jesus. Be honest with yourself and be honest with God. Experience just how liberating it is to confess your heart to God and allow His love, mercy, and grace to envelope you.

Here are some Bible verses that may help you with your process.

Psalm 32:5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Proverbs 28:13 Whoever conceals their sin does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

1 John 1:19 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Please take some time to end your group in prayer. You may use the Prayer and Praise Report on the following page as you pray and close your session for this week.

PRAYER AND PRAISE REPORT

This is a place where you can write each other's prayer requests, and make a note when God answers prayer. Pray for each other's requests out loud together as a group. If you're new to group prayer, it's okay to pray silently.

Prayer Requests:

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Praise Reports:
