

Connect Group Notes - Unequaled Week 4

Getting started

- Have you ever known an occasion when you felt trapped somewhere and were desperate to find a way out?
- Have you ever been locked out of a building and had to find a way to get in?
- Are there any places you've visited where gates have a significant role or meaning?

Getting stuck in

Read John 10:7-10 together.

- Why do you think Jesus used the illustration of robbers and thieves?
- Why is the illustration of sheep and the shepherd significant for us as Christians?
- What does Jesus give us access to in life, that we would never find without him?

Psalms 23:4 *"Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me."*

- How has your relationship with Jesus helped you through a difficult situation or time in your life?

Read Hebrews 10:19-21 together.

- What truth from this passage helps you feel more confident about approaching God's presence?

Getting personal (Don't skip this bit!!!)

- Is there something in your life today that you need God's help to find your way through, or to find a way out? - *Please don't feel pressure to share very personal matters, but maybe you would want to share something the group can pray for and support you in.*

Isaiah 43:2 *"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze."*

Pause for a moment as a group and reflect on the ways Stuart explained that Jesus is the gate for us, and how God has worked in your life through Jesus:

- Jesus is the way out of negative patterns of life that destroy hope
- Jesus is the way in to a deep connection with God himself
- Jesus is the way through walls that have held us in unhealthy, unsafe and unwanted places in life

Prayer

Pause as a group to pray for one another that each of you will experience the freedom that we have found in Jesus to live life through him as the shepherd who guards our lives from unseen dangers.