November 12, 2017

**The Gate**

John 10:1-10; Psalm 118:19-21

* Discuss why shepherding may not be as calm and idyllic as classical art portrays. See 1 Samuel 17:33-37. What does it mean to protect something defenseless and not clever—sheep—that most carnivores think is delicious?
* Why does the Lord insult us by calling us sheep? In what ways is it true? How are we probably not as strong and clever as we think? How far are we at any moment from being in a disaster?
* Why is our need for physical safety and security becoming more obvious with each terror attack? What should we as a congregation do to meet this need? What is the wisdom side—security guard, etc.? What is the faith side—we will not stop meeting together, etc.?
* In all the realms of life, why do we need someone to look after us? If you think that is not true please explain. See the prayer of Moses at Psalm 90:12-14.
* What does Jesus intend for us by going through Him, The Gate (John 10:10)? What does that extraordinary life entail?
* Could a believer who will never have good health care or a car possibly experience the abundant life more deeply than those of us who have those things? Describe how that might be (or very likely is.)