**I AM the Gate**

*Ps. Arron Smart*

**Text**

**7**So Jesus spoke again, “I assure you that **I am the gate** of the sheep. **8**All who came before me were thieves and outlaws, but the sheep didn’t listen to them. **9**I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture. **10**The thief enters only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.

**Introduction**

Every text needs to be taken in context - John 9

Blind man

1. washed and came back seeing
2. Saw miracle “I am he who was blind but now see.”
3. before knowing Him saw Jesus as a prophet. “He healed my eyes and you don’t know where he came from?”
4. After meeting Him acknowledged he is God’s son. “Do you believe in the son of man? Who is he? – you are looking at him. Yes, Lord I believe.}

Pharisees (not all bad see Jn 9:16)

1. zealous for keeping rules (Miracle on Sabbath Therefore he is not of God)
2. said they were disciples of Moses
3. Prideful – (said to blind man) “are you trying to teach us?”

Parents

1. Acknowledged miracle “it is him” (speaking of son)
2. Afraid. Pharisees had declared anyone calling Jesus Messiah to be expelled from synagogue

**Body**

**3 people types**

1. Blind - who now see
2. Parents – see but blinded by fear
3. Pharisees – cannot see, prideful, guilty as claim to see.

Some did not understand what Jesus said so answers by talking about sheep.

**Sheep Pens**

* One Gate – Jesus, Messiah Jn 10:10 Life and life abundantly. Jn 14:6 Jesus. Way, truth and life. Ac 4:12 Salvation in no other
* Circular

In Australia we use dogs and follow the sheep

In middle east and bible times led the sheep

Sheep knew shepherds voice and followed

Jesus - Calls own sheep by name. Sheep know His voice Follow him as know his voice.

**Role of Pen**

* Keep in and out
* Which side of gate I am on matters.
* Only a burglar does not use the gate.

In Good = Gated communities - security, rich satisfying life

In Bad = Prison - addictions, habits, attitudes

Thief went over the wall - Jn 10:10 Kill steal, destroy

* Jesus came to set us free
* Gate is an escape from what keeps captive
* Jesus gate - freedom.

**Ending**

Are we (Not all see, not all listen)

Blind man

- Was blind but now Seeing & hearing

- (or are we) Seeing and hearing many voices - Falling away due to mud in eyes “I don’t know you.”

Parents – Was blind but now fearful

Pharisee - Blind but claim to see

Cure for blindness

1. get rid of what obscures vision
2. Die daily
3. Worship

Jesus calling

* open sight of blind
* miracles show He is the messiah.