

# In the Gospel We Receive Life

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Resurrection Sunday, April 9, 2023 ■ Nick Braitto

**We have an enemy committed to our \_\_\_\_\_.** (vv. 8; 10a; 12)

**Jesus is committed to bringing us \_\_\_\_\_.**

***Jesus willingly laid down His life for us.*** (vv. 11, 15; 17-18)

***Jesus triumphantly rose from the dead for us.*** (vv. 17-18)

***Jesus now offers abundant, eternal life to each of us.*** (vv. 9-11; 27-30)

***Jesus is building a resurrected community of people from all over the world.*** (v. 16)

**So, whose voice will you listen to?** (vv. 19-20)

## **John 10:7-21, 27-30**

<sup>7</sup> So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

<sup>11</sup> I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup> He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring

them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

<sup>19</sup> There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. <sup>20</sup> Many of them said, "He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?" <sup>21</sup> Others said, "These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

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<sup>27</sup> "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup> My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup> I and the Father are one." (ESV)

### ***Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions***

**Open:** Have you ever had something stolen from you? How did it make you feel? What did you do?

**Read & Discuss:** John 10:7-21

1. How is Jesus like a "door of the sheep," as He describes Himself in verses 7-10? One promise Jesus makes for those who enter through Him is that they will "have life and have it abundantly" (v. 10). What does Jesus mean by this, and how have you experienced this?
2. In verse 10, Jesus also speaks of the thief, who "comes only to steal and kill and destroy." In what ways do we experience this thievery in our lives? Why do we allow this to happen? How might we work to prevent this from happening?
3. Jesus goes on to speak of Himself as "the good shepherd" (vv. 11-15). How is Jesus like a good shepherd, and what can His sheep expect of Him? Why does Jesus contrast a good shepherd with a "hired hand" and what is this imagery meant to help us understand about Jesus?
4. Why does Jesus want his sheep to know He has "other sheep that are not of this fold" (v. 16)? How should knowing that as believers we are all of "one flock and one shepherd" shape how we view ourselves? How we view the community of believers? How we view Jesus?
5. When saying that He would lay down His life, why might Jesus have stressed that He would do this "of [his] own accord" (v. 18)? How does knowing that Jesus then had "authority to take [his life] up again" (v. 18) impact how we view the promises Jesus makes not only in this passage but in all of Scripture?
6. Verses 19-21 describe two different responses to the teaching of Jesus, with some saying Jesus was demon-possessed, and some saying He was not. What different responses do people in our culture have when confronted with Jesus? What reasons would you give for why you believe in Jesus?

**Apply:** How will the truth of Jesus' resurrection shape how you live this week?

**Pray:** Pray we would grow in our delight in and obedience to Jesus, our Good Shepherd and Risen Savior.