

WEEK MAR 7- MAR 13

#### MAIN IDEA

Jesus is the gate to life.

#### CHECK IN (HIGHS & LOWS)

15 min

A great, quick way to catch the highlights of what is happening in the lives of the people in your group is to take turns quickly sharing the "highs & lows" of your week. High: What was the highlight of your week? Low: What was the low point of your week?

## SETTLE IN (ICE BREAKER)

10 min

- 1. Start your time with open prayer. Set a timer for five minutes and leave it open for anyone to pray for what's on their mind. Here are some potential topics:
  - ·For us to feel how much God loves us
  - ·For our group to have fresh understanding and insight of God's truth
  - ·For you to see where God wants to apply his truth in your life
- 2. Tell us about your favorite pet you've ever had.

#### LOOK IN (OBSERVATION)

- Read John 10:1-10 three times. Read it once out loud as a group. Then give a minute for everyone to read it quietly. Then read it out loud again.
- What jumps out to you about this passage?

- 3. Who is the shepherd in this passage? Who is the gatekeeper? Who are the sheep?
- 4. What is the mission of the thief?
- 5. What is the mission of the shepherd?

#### LOOK UP (UNDERSTANDING) 20 min

- 1. Why is it important to understand that Jesus is the only one who can lead people into true life?
- 2. Why is it important to be able to discern the truth of Jesus from other messages in the world?
- 3. How do we begin to discern and recognize the promptings of Jesus from the "thieves and robbers"?
- 4. The thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy. When you look at the world, where do you see the thief's handiwork?
- 5. Jesus came so that we might have life, and life to its fullest (or zoe in the Greek, eternal/abundant life). When you look at the world and in the church, where do you see zoe in other people?

# GEAR UP (APPLICATION)

20 min

- 1. On a scale of 1-10 how would you rate your current ability to weigh worldly messages by the truth of God?
- 2. One of the reasons we can have trouble living in the zoe Jesus came to offer us is because we are still clinging to old lies from the enemy about our worth or what will make us happy. Is there an old lie you've had trouble shaking off in order to embrace the abundant life that comes from Jesus?

### STEP UP (HOMEWORK)

5 min

Read Scripture: One of the easiest ways to begin to discern truth is to know your Bible more thoroughly. If you aren't already, start a Bible reading plan as a group or with a friend and encourage each other about the truth you're finding. A good place to start is the New Testament gospels or epistles, because they have specific teachings of Jesus and the early church apostles.