



# 4th Sunday of Easter

## John 10: 1-10

Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

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

## Some things to think about...

'I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.' (John 10:10)

This is a verse that many Christians try to base their life on.

- What does this mean to you?
- How might someone be able to live a full and joyful life? What do they need?

## Activities

- Discuss together what you think are the basic things that human beings need to live and make a list.
- What would you add to the list so that a person can live a full and joyful life?
- Discuss what your Mini Vinnie group does to help people in your community to lead a full and joyful life.

In this season of Eastertide, it is important to be joyful and thankful. Finish your discussion with a time of prayer for all the things you are thankful for, that help you to live a full and joyful life. You could write prayers if you wish.

## Teacher's Notes

The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter is also known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday' and is a day when the Church prays for vocations. We are all called by God to follow Jesus and to share the love of God with others, which includes being a Mini Vinnie! In this Gospel, John is clear that Jesus is the way to salvation, ('I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' John 14:6) and that he has come that we might have life in abundance. Eastertide lasts for 50 days and so there is plenty of time to focus on thankfulness and joy!

Notes:
