
The Gospel of John: That You May Believe
“Living Your Best Life”
John 10:1-10

Thoughts to Shape and Spark Discussion:

“This house is now a litany of things I thought I'd never be
A man who has opinions on an ottoman, among other things
I used to think I'd miss the road, the crushing fame, the sold out shows
Now I just sing ‘head, shoulders, knees, and toes’ like I'd forgotten ‘em”
— Ben Rector, “Living My Best Life”

“The gospel isn’t one more road to choose from. The inclusivity of Jesus’ call to all is matched by the exclusivity of slicing off all other options.” — Jamie Mulvaney, “The Fear of Better Options”

“Your life in grace is the life of a cripple on an escalator: as far as being able to walk upstairs is concerned, you are simply dead; there is nothing for you to do. But then you don’t need to do anything, because the divine Floorwalker has kindly put you on the eternally moving staircase of Jesus — and up you go.”
— Robert Capon, *Between Noon and Three*

“The Bible never says there is nothing to fear. What it offers instead is something far stranger: the reassurance that we will never pass through our fear alone. ... [The love of God] casts out fear not by removing threats but by reorienting our hearts away from any illusion of self-sufficiency and toward the trust that we are held by someone greater than anything we may face.” — Edward Song, “The Dangerous Distortion of Fear”

Themes and Questions to Guide Reflection and Response:

Icebreaker: When you hear someone say, “*I’m living my best life*,” what comes to mind? What do you think people usually mean by that phrase? And what is “the best life”?

When Jesus says He came to give life “abundantly,” what does He mean? How is this different from the modern idea of “living your best life”?

What’s one voice, message, or influence in your life that promises “the good life” — but you’ve realized it can’t actually deliver? How do we learn to recognize and trust the voice of Jesus in a world full of competing voices?

Jesus invites us: “enter by Me.” What are one or two ways you can entrust yourself more fully to the Good Shepherd this week — to stop striving and simply let Him lead?

Jesus promises that His sheep will “go in and out and find pasture.” What might “finding pasture” look like for you right now—spiritually, emotionally, or relationally?

Take some time to pray together as a group. Maybe one question to ask is: What’s most important to you right now? Pray about those things and ask for God’s help and wisdom.