

# John 10:10 Lesson Plan / Outline

## "THE PURPOSE OF HIS COMING, TO GIVE US LIFE."

Intro: Jesus Christ the Son of God came to earth almost 2,000 years ago. Nothing has had a greater impact on man's history. Why did He come? Why would He leave His exalted position in glory to be despised and rejected by men? He came to reveal the Father. He came to bring us life.

<sup>10</sup> The **thief** cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: **I am** come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

## I. TWO FORCES WORKING ON YOU TODAY

### A. "The thief comes to rob, kill, and to destroy."

1. Satan is a thief, and he would rob you.
  - a. Purity.
  - b. Standards.
  - c. Strength (destroys power to resist).
  - d. Blessings of knowing and serving God.
2. He seeks to destroy
  - a. He seeks to destroy your defenses by;
    1. Drawing you away from the Word.
    2. Drawing you away from Fellowship.
    3. Drawing you away from Prayer.
  - b. Your freedom.
    1. He places man under bondage.
3. Looking at history before Christ, we see how effective he had become.
  - a. Morals depraved.
  - b. World of oppression.

1. Rich oppressed the poor.
2. Strong oppressed the weak.
- c. Man was without God and without hope.
- d. Small regard for human life.
4. Satan's way is the way of death.

B. "I am come that they might have life."

1. Life exists on three planes.
  - a. Body.
  - b. Soul.
  - c. Spirit.
2. Man had already existed on first two.
3. Man seeks to relate himself to higher-order animals.
4. God wants us to relate to Him. "Gave He the power to become Sons of God." John 1:12

*<sup>12</sup> But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:*

5. Life on the spiritual plane is "more abundant."
  - a. A life of fulfillment.
    1. Life on the animal plane, at its best, is unfulfilling.
      - b. Never satisfied.
      - c. Always striving for more.
      - d. Drinking the water but thirsty again.
      - e. Only a temporary sense of fulfillment, soon hungry again. (Thanksgiving Dinner).
6. Walking in the Spirit is satisfying.
  - a. More than that, it is overflowing - "My cup runneth over."  
"Shall never thirst again, but it shall..."

*But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. John 4:14*

## II. HOW DO WE RECEIVE THE MORE ABUNDANT LIFE?

A. Jesus said, "Ye must be born again."

1. We need to be born of the Spirit.

2. How?

a. By believing in Him. [John 3:16](#).

b. By receiving Him. "And this is the record..."

B. Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that more abundantly."

1. 'Tis the season to be jolly and once again consider the coming of Christ to the earth.

2. Have you received the greatest gift of all?

a. God's gift of eternal life, the more abundant life

Reference:

[https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/smith\\_chuck/SermonNotes\\_Jhn/Jhn\\_39.cfm](https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/smith_chuck/SermonNotes_Jhn/Jhn_39.cfm)

# What Does John 10:10 Mean?

Jesus' mission statement in [John 10:10](#) states, "*I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*" One's interpretation of "abundance" should exceed the material things the world. Even if you take it even further to include perfect health, the spouse of your dreams, and worldwide fame, you still fall far short of Jesus' meaning. Jesus' understanding of the abundant life is more than having the best life here on earth.

To understand [John 10:10](#), we must first enter Jesus' analogy of sheep, shepherds, and thieves. In the analogy, God's people are the sheep, Jesus is the shepherd, and the thieves are any who approach the sheep illegitimately and with intent to harm in any way.

From the earliest books of the Bible, God's people are compared to sheep (see Num. 27:17). As a result, this was already a well-known image by the time Jesus used it, and the image still applies today. In whatever time or place they may live, God's people are sheep who need someone to care for them—to lead them to food and water, to rescue them when they wander away, and to defend them from wolves and thieves.

As for the thieves, their ranks include anyone who approaches God's people without license or love. The thief doesn't enter by the door, with the gatekeeper's approval, but "climbs in by another way" (John 10:1). He hops over the fence because he doesn't have the right to be there, and he comes to do harm. He doesn't care for the sheep. His purpose is to "steal and kill and destroy" (John 10:10).

Whereas the thief comes to take life, the good shepherd stands ready to give it. But it is not the sheep's lives that he gives. He gives his own: "the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." The good shepherd takes upon himself the harm that the thief intends for the sheep, and he neutralizes the threat.

## For the one who has faith in Jesus, the best is yet to come.

Jesus does promise blessing in this life for those who forsake all to follow Him, which includes not only the "stuff" we need to live, but also a wealth of relationships, albeit with persecutions (see Mark 10:29–31). At the same time, He makes plain that true life is not defined by what we own: "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15). Possessions may, in fact, be more of a risk than a reward, since a heart set on them is more prone to covetousness.

Jesus unpacks what He means by the "abundant life" a few verses after John 10:10 saying: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand" (John 10:27–28).

What is more abundant than life as we currently know it? As Jesus says here, it is life that is eternal, life without perishing, life that is protected by the hands of our Savior Himself. This is one aspect of the abundant life Jesus offers: it lasts forever. It abounds in duration. But just as important, Jesus says the

abundant life is one in which we are known by Him and we follow Him. In other words, the abundant life is one not only of greatest quantity (eternal) but also of greatest quality.

So, Jesus' offer of abundant life in John 10:10 means that to gain Him as your Shepherd is far and away the greatest thing that could ever happen to you. It means that anything this world may either give to you or take away from you doesn't really matter that much, because a life awaits you beyond the present that greatly surpasses this one in every way. It means that for the one who has faith in Jesus, the best is yet to come.