

I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY

A Series by Andrea Kidd

#5: "I am the door" (John 10:9, KJV).

That's an odd thing to say, an unusual way for anyone to identify themselves. Some said he was raving mad (John 10:20, NIV). Some listened to Him because they had seen Him do things that no other human being could do (John 10:21). Since then, many have meditated on those words, wanting to uncover what Jesus meant when He said, "I am the door".

A door is an entry. The door to my house lets me in to my house but not to my neighbour's house. Jesus said He is *the* door. When Jesus said He is the door, He revealed that He is the only way into the Father's presence (John 14:6). Other doors lead to other places, but Jesus is the only entry to God's presence.

Some might try to insist the only way to God's kingdom is through one particular church, such as the Seventh Day Adventist, Baptist, Brethren, or Roman Catholic Church; some may insist that any church or religion or spirituality is a way to God. These would be our words, not Jesus' words; and He has an authority we do not have. He proved that He has that authority through his life and actions and no one has been able to disprove his authority.

What kind of door is Jesus? A door can be inviting, a welcome mat on the step, an open door. Jesus is the door inviting us into the Father's presence. Jesus is the door that says, "Come

on in!" Life is wearying and He promises us rest (Matthew 11:28); life brings grief and He promises comfort (Matthew 5:4); He is the way back to the One who creates us, gives us life, body, mind, soul, emotions and spirit. Jesus is the entry to the Father's home, His world, His mindset, His value system, His way of interacting with people. It is good in that place, very good!

A door can also forbid entry. It is protection against those who might plan to steal from us or attack us. In the same way Jesus is protection against lies that destroy peace and sanity. He is the way through the guilt of troubling truths. Jesus is the door that slams

shut, keeping out hate and despair that would tangle us in strangling negativity and drag us far away from away from the security of His embrace.

Yes, Jesus described himself in a most unusual way when He said, "I am the door." Yet, what a unique way to guide us mortals into understanding the incomprehensible! Jesus is the Door to dealing with matters that daily concern us. He is the Door to the world we have

come from. We can walk through that Door to the Father of fathers and into our home in eternity where we truly belong.

