

gather

FOR FAITH AND ACTION

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I don't like fences

—by Adrainne Gray

?I don't like gates, enclosures, pens, fences, walls.

I never have. It's part of the reason I felt more suited to the call of deacon or the office of Word and Service, positions that call one to go outside the walls of the church, mostly.

The feeling of being restricted bothers me. It bothers me even more when others appear to be stuck, confined or fenced in. **I want to be free to live the life God intended**, and I encourage others to find that freedom as well.



For many of us here today in the Holy Land, restrictions and confinement bother us, and that's why we've come to walk with others toward freedom.

If we play the who-are-we-in-this-Scripture game, and we are the sheep, what emerges for me is that if we, the sheep, weren't penned in, there would be no need for a gate.

You may be thinking: But the sheep need to be penned in because sheep are dumb and wander off, and like dumb sheep, we need to be kept safe.

My experience makes me challenge that. **[Read more in this excerpt from the May issue.](#)**

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