

The Voice

John 10:27-30



"My sheep hear My voice, I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish." - John 10:27-28

Main Point: We all have different voices that speak into our lives and we have to decide which of those voices we will listen to. Jesus still speaks today, but the question is..."Do we listen?"

Introduction: Use the following questions to introduce the topic of discussion -

Have you ever watched the show "The Voice?" If so, which coach's team would you want to be on?

What voices from your life are recognizable? Are you able to distinguish one voice out of many?

Have a Volunteer Read John 10:27-30

In this passage of scripture, Jesus' followers wanted an answer about whether or not He was the promised Messiah. Jesus revealed that those who know His voice are the ones who follow him and it is they who have been saved. It is here Jesus lays out the type of response a true believer will have when they hear the voice of their shepherd.

The first response followers of Jesus have to His voice is **THEY HEAR IT.** Read again in v. 27.

What did Jesus mean by "they *hear* my voice?" What is the difference between hearing and listening when it comes to Jesus voice?

You have probably heard the saying "Actions speak Louder than words." Read **Matthew 11:2-6.** What actions of Jesus spoke of who He is and why weren't more people listening?

In what ways can and do you hear the voice of Jesus today? How can we share it with others?

The second response followers of Jesus have to His voice is **THEY FOLLOW.** Read v. 27 again.

Those who are followers of Jesus don't just hear His voice - they follow Him. In what ways does Jesus relationship with us mirror a shepherd and his sheep?

In what ways have you heard His voice lately and what are you doing to follow His call?

Jesus said in **John 14:23-24** "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word...the one who doesn't love me will not keep my words." How can we do a better job of following Jesus voice in obedience as a VGroup and as a church?

How have you followed Jesus in obedience even when it hurt or was difficult? Going further, if we aren't following him to a point of being uncomfortable from time to time, are we really following?

The final response of followers to Jesus' voice is **THEY REST. Read v.28-30 once more.**

As the Great Shepherd, Jesus not only takes us into his fold and under his watchful eye, but goes so far as to take us by His hand. The enemy seeks to snatch us from Him through any means necessary. What struggles are you facing personally that are trying to snatch you away now?

What is Jesus response in this passage to those who might say they have fallen too far from God's grace? How can we encourage those around us to live as one "sealed" by God? (**2 Cor. 1:21**)

Think back to the illustration Pastor Erik used of a girl riding on an airplane and her father was the pilot. What turbulence are you experiencing in life right now? How can you do a better job of trusting in God, the pilot of your life?

Pray:

As you close your group time pray the Holy Spirit would reveal to you how you are falling short when it comes to following Jesus. If you haven't been following Jesus, take this time to reflect on His goodness and the free gift of grace offered and the eternal salvation. Ask forgiveness and pray God would mold your heart into one of obedience.

Connect:

Read Luke 15 "The Parable of the Lost Sheep." Reflect on God's great love and concern for you and consider how blessed we all are to follow a Father and Shepherd such as this.

Related Scripture: Hearing Him - Isaiah 6:8; Hebrews 2:1, James 1:25; Following Him - 1 Cor. 11:1, 1 Cor. 14:1, Eph. 5:1; Resting in Him - 2 Timothy 2:19; Deut. 33:3, Rev. 12:7-8.