

Opening Prayer: Good Shepherd, In the midst of so many voices competing for our attention, we ask that you quiet our hearts and center our minds. Help us to hear your voice clearly today. Open our ears, our hearts, and our lives so that we might not only listen—but follow. Guide our conversation and draw us closer to you and one another. In Christ’s name, Amen.

Theme: Learning to recognize and respond to the voice of Jesus in a noisy world. Abundant life begins with listening—but grows through trust, discernment, and faithful response. The Shepherd is always speaking. The question is: are we learning to recognize His voice?

Secular Quote: *“The quieter you become, the more you are able to hear.”— Rumi*

Starter Question: Think about a time when you recognized someone’s voice without seeing them. What made their voice recognizable to you?

Digging Deeper Questions

1. In John 10:1–10, what does Jesus say distinguishes His voice from others?
2. What does it mean that the Shepherd “calls his own sheep by name”? How does that shape your understanding of God?

3. What “voices” compete for your attention in daily life? Which ones are the loudest?
4. Have you ever experienced a moment where something felt deeply “right” in your spirit? What was that like?

5. Based on this week’s message, what are some characteristics of Jesus’ voice?
 - What does it sound like?
 - What does it lead toward?
6. How can we tell the difference between God’s voice and other influences (fear, culture, ego, etc.)?

7. Jesus talks about “coming in and going out.” Where do you currently find yourself?
 - Needing to **come in** (rest, worship, learning)?
 - Or needing to **go out** (serve, act, engage)?
8. How have you experienced God speaking to you:
 - In quiet moments?
 - Through other people?
 - In acts of service?

Actionable (Live It Out This Week): Choose **one or more** of the following practices:

Daily (5 minutes): Sit in silence-Ask: *“Jesus, what are you saying to me today?”* Listen without rushing

Practice: Read a portion of John 10 each day-Notice words or phrases that stand out

Live It Out: Act on one nudge that aligns with Christ’s voice
(kindness, forgiveness, encouragement, service)

Scripture

Discernment Check: Before making a decision, ask: Does this lead toward life, love, and growth? Does this reflect the heart of Christ?

Closing Prayer: Good Shepherd, Thank you for calling us by name. Thank you for never leaving us to wander alone. Teach us to recognize your voice above all the noise in our lives. Give us the courage to follow where you lead, and the wisdom to turn away from what is not of you. Help us live each day within hearing distance of your love. And as we go from this place, may we carry your voice into the world. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Daily Scripture Guide:

Monday – The Shepherd Knows You: John 10:1–10

Focus: Jesus calls His sheep by name.

Tuesday – Sought and Found: Ezekiel 34:11–16

Focus: God actively seeks, rescues, and restores.

Wednesday – A Voice Worth Following: Psalm 100

Focus: Resurrection changes how we live and love.

Thursday – Walking in His Steps: 1 Peter 2:19–25

Focus: Jesus is the Shepherd who leads by example.

Friday – Listening for Wisdom: Proverbs 3:5–6

Focus: Trusting God leads to direction.

Saturday – Be Still and Listen: Psalm 46:10

Focus: Silence helps us hear God.