

Text: John 10:1-19

## 1) Who's Voice?

John 10:3-5 &amp; 10

- Influences
- Jesus said you should only be following His voice, (leads us, keeps us safe, takes us to pastures and abundant life)
- Success or failure is based on who's voice you listen to

## 2) Examples of people listening to voices

## a) David and Goliath

1 Samuel 17:16(msg)

- Fear gripped Saul the Israelite army, paralysed by the Philistine army, dismayed, greatly afraid
- World / Enemy Voice = **FEAR** / Defeat
- David not heard the taunting... had heard **THE VOICE**, knew the voice that had delivered him, not intimidated by the voice of Goliath or the Philistine army.
- God's Voice = **FAITH** / Victory

## b) Two blind men...

Matt 20:29-34

- "...Multitude warned them that they should be quiet"
- But they heard Jesus voice
- to trade their healing for the voices persuading them to be quiet.
- Multitude / Social Media / News = **FEAR** / Defeat
- Jesus' Voice = **FAITH** / Victory

## c) Woman with the issue of blood

Mark 5:25-34

- She had heard about Jesus and the voice of Jesus, a promise of healing.
- She pushed through, voices that tried to silence her, keep her away, religious tradition, society, expectations.
- Everyone she touched would be unclean because of her bleeding but she touched the healer, who made her clean.
- Society Expectations / Religious Traditions / News = **FEAR** / Defeat
- Jesus' Voice = **FAITH** / Victory

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## d) Cornelius / Peter

Acts 10:9-16

- Peter had a religious voice in his head – "No, I can't eat that"
- This was contrary to God's voice
- But the voice was confirmed by the revealed Word – We have the Word

3) Practical Steps – Hearing the correct Voice

## Shepherd vs Sheep

- A shepherd had three main responsibilities; we have three responsibilities:
  - 1) **Feed** the sheep (Gods Job) > **Audience** (Our job)
  - 2) **Protect** the sheep (Gods Job) > **Align** (Our job)
  - 3) **Guide** the sheep (Gods Job) > **Follow** (Our job)
- That's why it was so important that the sheep knew His voice.

## 1) Audience - Faith comes by Hearing/Fear comes by hearing

Rom 10:17

Hear = Give Audience to - Strong's G191 - akouōto...Example - going to the theatre

- Hearing God's voice brings **FAITH**:
  - The Bible / Scripture / Podcasts /Hearing stories about other people who have encountered Jesus
- But when you hear YOUR voice speaking the voice of God, Faith is maximum
- Hearing the enemy, society, social media can lead to **FEAR**
  - Does all social media bring fear??? No, but most do. Does all news bring fear??? No, but most do

## 2) Align – to God's voice

- **Faith come by hearing...** Romans 10:17
  - Compare the voices you are hearing with what the Word of God is saying... do they align or not?
  - The best way to know the shepherd's voice is to read and hear the Word of God
  - Intimacy with God ensures that you don't follow the stranger. **Example**: Recognising people's voices on the phone
- **Reset – Forget network**
  - On a phone you can go to the settings and then press "Reset"
    - Social media – un-friend, or un-follow
  - On WIFI setting – Choose Forget the Network
    - Voices in your head – press – Forget the network. The devil lies to you – press – Forget the network

### 3) Follow – Aligning your voice to God’s voice

- **The voice you are tuning into (audience) will be the voice you follow**
  - Jesus said right in the beginning of our talk “*My sheep will follow me and run from a stranger...*”
- **The voice you follow will lead you, and becomes your shepherd**
  - Saul tuned to voice of Goliath, led to fear, defeat. Fear became their shepherd leading them to death.
  - David tuned into the voice of God and He led him into victory
  - If the loudest voice is the government, then the government is my shepherd, my reliance is on them, not God
  - Peter gave audience to, aligned with, and followed God’s Voice, so
    - God became the Shepherd and provided, protected and guided
    - Salvation came as a result of audience, aligning, following
    - TRANSFORMATION - Peter [bias] & Cornelius [sin]
- **Ask yourself**
  - How many minutes/hours do I give **Audience** to social media voices?
  - How many minutes/hours do I spend **Aligning / Follow** Bible readings?