



My Sheep Hear My Voice

John 10: 27

Items Needed

- ✓ Bible with marked scripture
- ✓ Crayons/Markers/Pencils
- ✓ Items for Sheep Craft (see lesson, craft is optional)
- ✓ Copies of color block worksheet
- ✓ Copies of maze coloring sheet
- ✓ Copies of take home overview



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Objective of Lesson

A while back I had one of my students ask me, "How do you know if you are one of God's elect?" Many of us, who have learned of God's election, ask this question. Today we are going to look at what our Lord has to say about this question. I hope it is a blessing to your hearts and mine.

Scripture Reference

John 10: 27

²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: -

Lesson Instructions

1. A while back I had a child ask me an excellent question. Ever since I was asked this question, I have been searching for a scripture we could study to answer this question. (If you have very little children in your classes then you can omit some of these points and just focus on the story itself. I recommend that you focus more on the point that sheep know their master and caregiver).
2. I need you to find our verse in our Bibles. See if you can find John 10:27. (If the children are of age have them read the verse all together out loud).
3. Our Lord knows we have no ability to understand anything spiritual. That is

why He gives us illustrations like this one, so we can understand what He is teaching. This is a beautiful and simple illustration - even the smallest children in our class can understand it.

4. Raise your hand if you know what a shepherd is. Can any of you name some things a shepherd does for his sheep? A shepherd is someone who takes care of his sheep. He spends every day with them and he provides for them their every need. He leads them to pastures to graze on grass. He leads them to water to drink their fill. He protects them from predators who try to steal them away.
5. Do you think the sheep learn who their master is? If a shepherd they didn't know came in and started calling for them to follow him, do you think they would follow him? No. They don't know him. They know who their shepherd and caretaker is. That is what our Lord is using to help us understand who His elect are. His elect are all those who know Him and follow Him.
6. We are going to play a little game. I need a few volunteers. Who wants to be a sheep? Who wants to be a shepherd? (Have the children split into two groups: one group is sheep; the other is shepherds. The sheep are going to turn their backs on the shepherds. They can't see who it is that is going to be calling to them. Assign the "sheep" a "Shepherd". They only turn around when they hear their "shepherd's" voice. Have each Shepherd say, "My sheep hear my voice and they follow me..." When they hear their shepherd's voice have them turn around.)
7. (Once you have finished the game have them sit back down). That game we just played is exactly what this verse is teaching. How do the Lord's sheep know to follow Him? They know, because they recognize His voice. They know who their shepherd and care taker is. That is exactly how you can know if you are one of God's elect. When the pastor tells you about who the Lord is and you know in your heart, "That's my Lord! That's the one I look to for my salvation; I know him!" When you hear a pastor talking about a Lord who cannot save, is that your shepherd and keeper? No. The Lord and the

shepherd of the elect CAN save! He can provide everything we need for our salvation and for life.

8. I have another illustration. How many of you have a baby brother or a baby sister? When they are crying, who is it in the family that can sooth them the best? Is it Mom? Is it you? Is it your Dad? - In most families the baby is only calmed by its mother. Grand-parents, friends, brothers, and sisters - you all care for the baby but only the mother can truly calm a child. No matter what everybody else does, the moment the mother takes the baby in her arms everything goes silent - not even a sob. Even that child knows his caretaker.
9. I heard a story one time about two identical twin mothers. They looked so much alike you almost couldn't tell them apart. They each got married and had a baby. The mothers looked so alike, that when one of their babies started to cry, the twin sister would go to sooth it and at first the baby was happy to be held by her, but when the sister would talk, the baby realized that was not his mother and he started to cry. That is exactly what this verse is illustrating. Just like that little baby knew the voice of his mother, the Lord's sheep know the voice of their savior. They know who He is and what He does. They know when their pastor is talking about their Lord; they know what their Lord sounds like. If that pastor/teacher starts talking about things that are not true about the Lord, then His children know, "That is not my Lord. That doesn't sound like my Lord at all!"
10. Back to our question. How do you know if you are one of God's elect? You hear and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. If He is your savior; if He is your master; if He is your care-taker... then you are one of His sheep. If you hear your pastor or teacher speaking about Him and you know, 'That is my Lord! That is the one I follow! That is the sovereign one. That one paid for my sins with the sacrifice of himself! The one that is God and Man! The one that rules all things! That is my Lord and savior!'. If you are one of His sheep you know what He sounds like and you follow Him!

Lesson Activities

- *Sheep and Shepherd Game* - For young children and older children.
- For the younger children I recommend the following craft activity and to simplify the lesson and focus only on "The sheep know their Shepherd" The Lord Jesus Christ is our shepherd. Instructions: This project was taken from MakingLearningFun.com. This project is made from one large and one small paper plate. Paint the small plate black (or purchase small pink plates). Once it is dry, cut it in half to make the ears. Take the large paper plate, fold it in half and trim off a little along the bottom and sides. Assemble: Paint two black eyes and glue cotton balls to the top of the sheep's head.



- *Color Block Worksheet*
- *Maze Coloring Sheet* (by childrensbiblesongs.us)



Take Home Lesson Overview

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Scripture Reference:

John 10: 27 - ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: -

Lesson Overview:

Today's lesson discussed God's electing love and grace and answered the question, "Are you a child of God?" John 10: 27 was our reference verse. How do you know if you are one of God's elect? You hear and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. Is He is your savior? Is He is your master? Is He your care-taker?... then you are one of His sheep. If you hear your pastor or teacher speaking about the Lord and you know in your heart - "That is my Lord! That is the one I follow! That is the sovereign one. That one that rules all things is my Lord and savior!". His sheep know Him and rejoice in their hearts that they have one who can care for them. You know what your Lord and master sounds like and you follow Him. He is the Lord and savior who paid for your sin debt with the sacrifice of Himself. He is the God Man, Christ Jesus the Lord. Amen.

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Color each square with a sheep in it. Find the hidden picture!



