Message Summary

Do you ever find it difficult to hear God speak? Jesus is a good shepherd, and we can learn to recognize His voice. How? Ask God to speak to you, listen to what He says, and do what He tells you to do.

Key Scripture(s)

"The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ... and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ... and his sheep follow him because they know his voice." John 10:2-4 NIV

[Jesus] replied, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it." Luke 11:28 NIV

Additional Scriptures

- 1 Samuel 3:8-9 NIV
- Jeremiah 33:3 NIV
- Isaiah 30:21 NIV
- Psalm 46:10 NIV
- 1 Kings 19:12 NIV
- Revelation 3:20 NIV

Talk It Over

Start Talking

Find a conversation starter for your group.

• If you could ask God one question, what would it be?

Start Thinking

Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- Read John 10:2-4. What are some ways people might hear from God, and what does it look like to recognize His voice?
- Read Luke 11:28. In what ways could obedience result in blessing? What are some things that stop people from obeying the Word of God?

Start Sharing

Choose a question to create openness.

- Share about a time when you heard from God. How did you respond? What did you learn from that experience?
- Has God called you to do something that you are putting off or avoiding? How might you or those around you be positively affected by your obedience?

Start Praying

Father, thank You for being someone who cares enough to speak to us. Thank You for giving us the ability to hear You, whether You speak to us through the Bible, a song, or the words of a friend. Help us to slow down, hear You, and obey whatever You ask of us. We love you. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start Doing

- Take time this week to listen to God and follow through on what He communicates to you.
- Start the Where Is God When Life Is Hard? Bible Plan using Plans With Friends: <u>www.go2.lc/promise</u>
- Consider how you could love others by serving on the weekend or with a Local Mission Partner.