

My Sheep Hear My Voice (John 10:22-30) Sunday School Lesson

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Written by Brittany Putman Last updated May 5, 2019 1 Comment

July 2, 2015

Lesson Title: Knowing Jesus Through the Five Senses: The Sense of Hearing

Bible Reference: John 10:22-30; Psalm 46:10; John 10:28

Target Age Group: Elementary

Learning Context: Sunday School

Target Time Frame: 45 minutes

Focus Verse: "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27

Gospel Connection: In this lesson, children learn to listen closely to what God is trying to tell them. When Jesus was on the Earth many people did not believe He was the Savior even though He told them plainly that He was. Likewise, we have to listen for God's voice in the midst of our lives. Listening to God may be difficult but is well worth it. The end result is living in God's will.

Learning Aim: I can listen to God.

Basic Supply List:

1. Laptop, Phone, Tablet or Radio to play various sounds
2. Bibles
3. Cardstock
4. Crayons
5. Masking Tape
6. Paint Stir Sticks

Note: In the teaching plan below the words in *italics* are meant to be read aloud. The regular text is simply directions for the teacher.

>>>> Basic Teaching Plan <<<<

Introduction: Welcome each child as they arrive to class. Play a variety of sounds to the class such as a car horn, music, a cow, a siren, a lion's roar, cartoons, a weather alert, etc. Instruct the class to move to the left side of the room if the sound is something important that they should listen to. If the sound is unimportant, then they move to the right side of the room. *Say, God gave us a sense of hearing which helps us understand the world around us. So far today you have heard sounds that are important to listen to, such as a police siren, and sounds that are just for fun, such as music. The most important thing that you can listen for is the voice of God. Sometimes God speaks out loud and sometimes He speaks through preachers or just when you read the Bible. Either way, it is very important to listen to whatever God may be trying to tell you.*

Biblical Evidence: Read John 10:22-30. Say, *The Jews had been waiting for a Savior for centuries, but it was still hard to believe that Jesus was actually there. They could hear him say that He was God's son, but they couldn't believe it. Jesus calls the people who believe in Him His sheep. What do the sheep, aka Jesus' people, do? They listen to Jesus. What does Jesus do for His sheep? He gives them eternal life. So is Jesus' voice something important to listen to or not?* Allow children to discuss how important it is for them to listen to God.

Ask, *We can't talk to Jesus in person like the Jews did so how are we supposed to listen for God?* Ask a child to read Psalm 46:10 as an answer to this question. Say, *We hear the Lord when we are still and listen for Him. God might not speak out loud to us each time we listen for Him, but we still need to spend lots of time listening for Him. Reading the Bible and praying each day is a very good way to listen to God.*

Say, *So what do we get when we listen for God and become one of His "sheep"?* We get eternal life, which means we go to Heaven and live with Jesus after we die. Read John 10:28 again. Say, *Using our sense of hearing to listen to God is very important.*

Learn the Focus Verse: Use these motions as you say the Focus Verse to help your students memorize it.

"My sheep listen to my voice" –Hold hand to your ear like you are listening.

"I know them" –Point to your head.

"And they follow me" –March in place.

What Would You Do: You may want to break the class up into small groups for this activity. Pretend that you are at school and a friend says the following things to you. What should you do or say in response to these things? Which conversations honor God? Read each sentence or sentences to class and then discuss.

1. Did you hear about what happened at recess yesterday? One of Kimmy's braids got caught on the monkey bars and they had to cut her hair!
2. Did you hear the story that Mrs. King told yesterday? She said a man named David was thrown into a lion's den and the Lord saved him.
3. My brother said he can do a backflip off of the roof of the house. I bet you can't do that.
4. I can't play today because my sister is sick and I am going to help her with her chores.

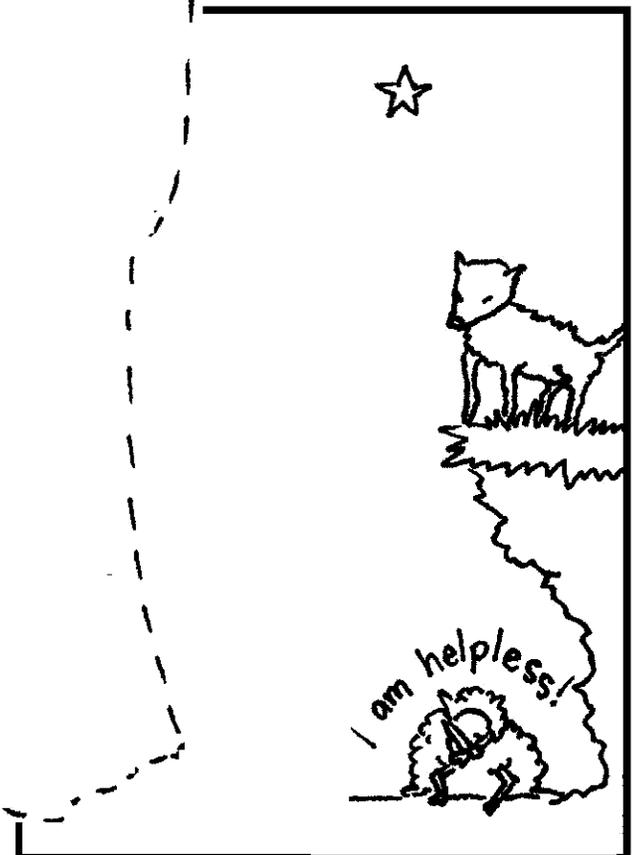
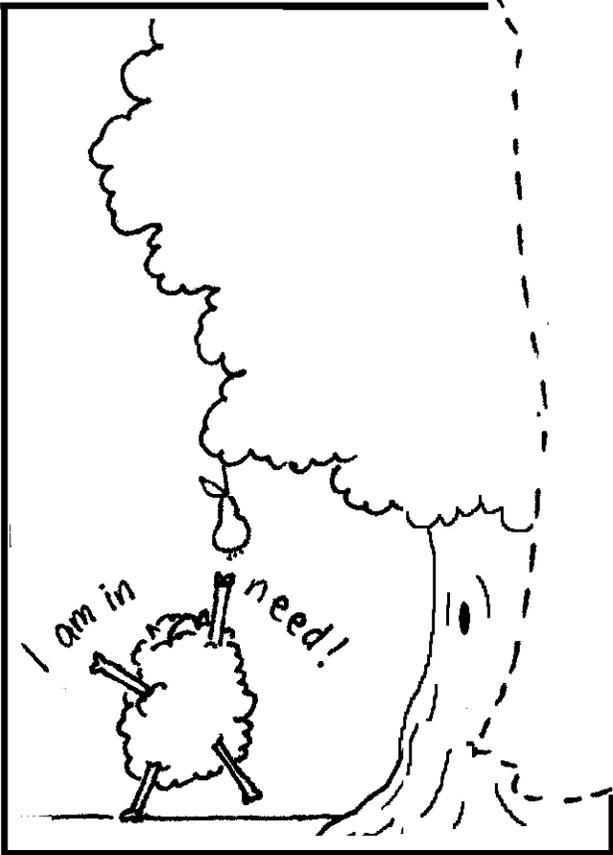
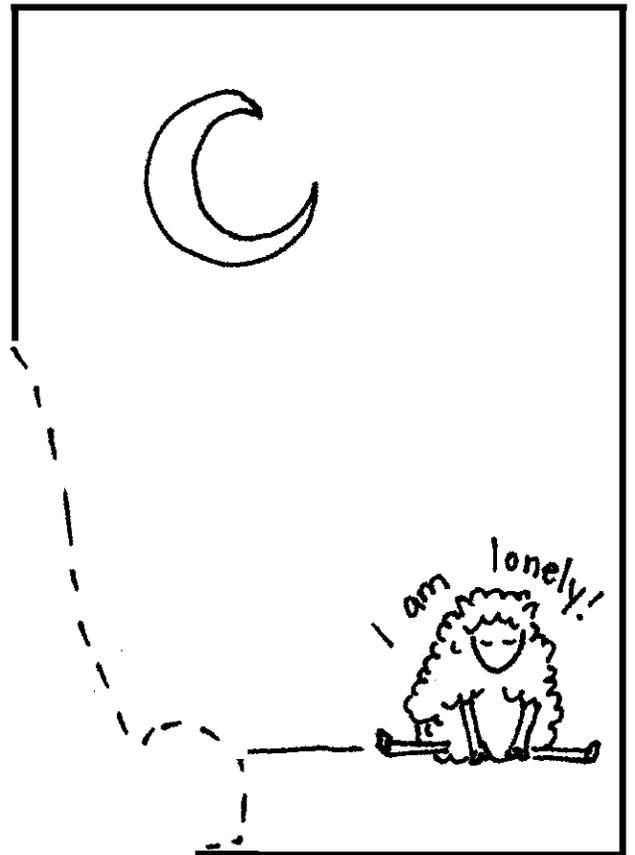
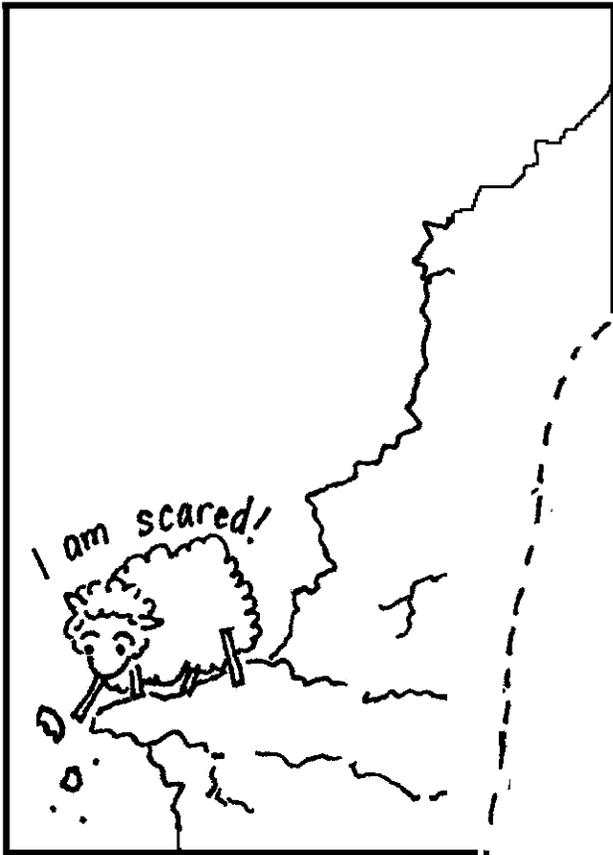
Say, *Part of having a sense of hearing is listening to others. It is important to make sure that we listen to good things and only say things that are kind to others.*

Simon Says Remix: For this version of *Simon Says* spread out and then play as usual. When a child messes up instead of being out they will freeze in their place. Once several children are frozen, yell "TIME TO LISTEN UP! 5-4-3-2-1!" When the children who are still in the game hear this they must quickly run to their frozen friends and fist bump them to set them free. When you

get to ,1 the game continues as normal. Play until only one child is left. Say, *Listening to God is important. During this game listening closely meant that you were able to help your friend get back into the game. In life, you can listen closely to God and then tell your friends about them.*

Listen Up: Give each child a piece of cardstock and crayons. Have each student create a sign that says "Listen to Jesus." Encourage them to be creative. Use masking tape to attach a paint stir stick to the back of the sign. Remind the children to take time to stop and listen for God daily.

Closing: Close the lesson by bringing the class together to pray. Say, *Today we learned about how we can use our sense of hearing to listen for God. Let's pray together and thank God for speaking to us.* Lead the class in prayer and dismiss.



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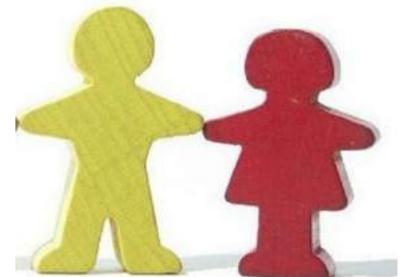
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Good Shepherd Game & Object Lesson – John 10:1-21

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Written by Tony Kummer Last updated March 28, 2019 Leave a Comment Filed Under: Games , John , Object Lessons

January 11, 2030

This shepherd's voice game idea was shared by Bible Games Central. Use it to add a fun element to Sunday School lessons about Jesus being our Good Shepherd. Use the the Bible references below and it could be a standalone lesson for children's church too!

Be prepared for noise and chaos, with half of the group shouting and the other half trying to listen out for the correct voice to follow! A great way to introduce the topic of discipleship and following the Good Shepherd.

- Bible: John 10:2-5,11-15; 14:15-17,26
- Ages: 6 and above
- Group Size: 6 or more
- Supplies: Blindfolds (1 blindfold for every 2 players)

“Sheep Hear My Voice” Game Directions

Pair everyone up.

Blindfold one person from each pair and have him/her stand in the middle of the room. These are the sheep.

Scatter up the others and have them stand at the edge of the room. These are the shepherds.

Ask all the sheep to turn 3 rounds on the spot.

On “Go”, the shepherds will call out to their respective sheep, to give them instructions to walk towards them. (No running allowed.)

The first pair of sheep and shepherd to reunite wins.

Switch roles and repeat.

Bible Message – Following Jesus' Voice

After playing this game, use this section to guide you in your lesson on following Jesus.

Discuss

1. Did you enjoy this game?
2. Was it easy to identify which voice to follow? How did you know?
3. Do you know a Bible passage that talks about following the correct voice?

John 10:2-5 (NIRV)

² The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him. The sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own sheep, he goes on ahead of them. His sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ But they will never follow a stranger. In fact, they will run away from him. They don't recognize a stranger's voice."

Discuss

4. Whose voice will the sheep follow?
5. Do the sheep know who their shepherd is?
6. Does the shepherd know which are his sheep?

Say

This passage tells us that the shepherd knows his sheep by name. And the sheep recognizes and follows the voice of its shepherd. Let's read more about the shepherd and the sheep.

John 10:11-13 (NIRV)

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired man is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when the hired man sees the wolf coming, he leaves the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired man. He does not care about the sheep.

Discuss

7. Who does this passage compare the good shepherd with?
8. What will a good shepherd do for his sheep? Why?

John 10:14-15 (NIRV)

¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep, and my sheep know me. ¹⁵ They know me just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I give my life for the sheep.

Discuss

9. In this passage, who does the good shepherd refer to?
10. Who are the sheep?

Say

In this passage, the good shepherd refers to Jesus and the sheep are his followers. The Bible tells us that Jesus is the good shepherd who died on the cross for our sins. If you believe in Jesus, you are a follower of Jesus. Jesus is your shepherd and you are one of Jesus' sheep.

Discuss

11. Is Jesus your shepherd? Are you one of his sheep?
12. What does this verse tell us?

Conclude

If we are followers of Jesus and one of his sheep, then we must obey his commands. John 14:15-17,26 tells us that the Holy Spirit who lives inside us will help us follow Jesus. It is important that you learn to follow Jesus closely. You can do this by reading the Bible and talking to him regularly.

John 14:15-17 (NIRV)

¹⁵ “If you love me, obey my commands. ¹⁶ I will ask the Father. And he will give you another friend to help you and to be with you forever. ¹⁷ That friend is the Spirit of truth. The world can’t accept him. That’s because the world does not see him or know him. But you know him. He lives with you, and he will be in you.

John 14:26 (NIRV)

²⁶ But the Father will send the Friend in my name to help you. The Friend is the Holy Spirit. He will teach you all things. He will remind you of everything I have said to you.

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Jesus is the Good Shepherd!



Jesus, the Nice Shepherd

Jesus was a shepherd,
A nice one slim and tall.
He loved the sheep so much,
He loved them one and all.

The sheep began to know Him,
Spending time grazing the hills.
Soon they knew His voice,
And followed as He willed.

The sheep began to grow,
Stronger and lovelier every day.
They became good friends,
With their Shepherd right away.

They loved the nice Shepherd,
Who led them in pastures green,
And always gave them water,
Never once was He mean.

One by one they followed,
This nice shepherd as He led.
And they loved him as a father,
Trusting Him as they were fed.

Written by Jacquelyn K Heasley