

# Community Group Discussion Questions

“The Competing Voice”    John 10:3-5, 16    Jan 12th, 2019

## Getting Started

What defines and directs us as people of destiny is to be able to discern the right voice(s) to give our attention and acceptance. The ability to decipher and determine what decisions to make in the daily rhythm of your life requires you to see Jesus as a Shepherd.

Take a minute to reflect on how many ‘voices’ you hear in a typical day. Make a list of at least 20 of them with your group. (T.V. ads, T.V. shows, radio ads, songs, magazines, co-workers, etc.)

## Going Deeper

**The Heart of the Shepherd:** “To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep *hear* his voice, and he *calls* his own sheep by name and *leads* them out.” (John 10:3 ESV)

1. **A Familiar Voice:** “*hear his voice*”
2. **A Father’s Voice:** “*he calls his own sheep by name*”
3. **A Faithful Voice:** “*leads them out*”

In what circumstances are you most likely to hear God’s voice?

What time of day do you listen best?

Do you do well in silence, or do you hear better through reading the bible or listening to Christian music, or talking with Christian friends?

**The Hand of the Shepherd:** “When he has *brought* (to drive out, cast aside, or expel violently) out all his own, *he goes before them*, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice.” (John 10:4 ESV)

1. **Forgives Your Faults:** “*having forgiven us all our trespasses*” (Col. 2:13)
2. **Fights for Your Freedom:** “*For freedom Christ has set us free*” (Gal. 5:1)
3. **Frees You from Fear:** “*Fear not, for I am with you* (Isaiah 41:10)
4. **Fulfills Your Future:** “*There is hope for your future, declares the LORD* (Jer. 31:17)

You have a strong Shepherd who has delivered you from a broken life and brought you into green pastures. What will it look like for you to walk closely with the Shepherd, so closely that you can always hear His voice?

**The Help of the Shepherd:** “A *stranger* (unrecognizable, unsuitable or even hostile) *they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.*” (John 10:5)

1. The Stranger’s Voice is Counterfeiting:
2. The Stranger’s Voice is Condemning:
3. The Stranger’s Voice is Condescending:
4. The Stranger’s Voice is Competing:
5. The Stranger’s Voice is Comparing:

When you hear voices that lie, condemn, condescend, compete, or compare, you know that is not your shepherd talking. In what parts of your life are you listening to these ‘non-shepherd’ voices? What do you think God wants you to do about that?

**The Hope of the Shepherd:** *“And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, **and they will listen to my voice**. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”* (John 10:16 ESV)

1. **Acknowledge His Voice:** It’s not just chance!
2. **Accept His Voice:** It’s not just a coincidence!
3. **Affirm His Voice:** It’s not just circumstance!

Scholars believe that the ‘sheep that are not of this fold’ is talking about Gentiles (non-Jewish people), who will come to believe in Jesus after the Jewish nation first has the opportunity to receive Jesus as their Savior. So, when you hear that whisper voice of God talking to you, you know it’s not just chance, or coincidence, or circumstance. No, it is God speaking to you because He wants you to believe in Him and follow Him. Share with us about the time when you first understood God was calling you to follow Him.

**Take Away:** Let’s choose to prioritize **ONE** voice above all voices and posture our life in obedience to that **ONE** voice.

### **Prayer Requests:**

Pray for CBC to wholeheartedly listen to God’s voice and obey what He says.