



“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM”

Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.” Isaiah 6:8

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TEXT: JOHN 10:1-5

TITLE: HOW DO I KNOW THAT IT IS THE SHEPHERD’S VOICE?

INTRODUCTION

- A. Dreams _____
1. To dream is to see *beyond* what was and, *through* what is, *to* what will be
 2. Why does God give us dreams? To prepare us today for how God plans to use us tomorrow
- B. However, how do I know that the voice I am hearing is the voice of God? _____
1. Perhaps it is the devil
 2. Perhaps it is my own mind

THE SHEPHERD AND THE SHEPHERD’S SHEEP

- A. Sheep were kept in a sheep pen overnight _____
1. The sheep pen was a walled in enclosure with one gate
 2. Someone was hired to watch the sheep overnight
- B. In the morning, the shepherd came to retrieve his sheep _____
1. The shepherd of the sheep came through the door of the pen
 2. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him
- C. The sheep hear the shepherd’s voice _____
1. The shepherd calls his own sheep by name
 2. The shepherd leads his sheep out
 3. The shepherd goes before the sheep
 4. The sheep follow
 5. Because the sheep know the shepherd’s voice
 6. The sheep will not follow a stranger
 7. The sheep will run because they do not know the voice of strangers

HOW DO I KNOW THAT IT IS THE SHEPHERD’S VOICE?

- A. I learn to discern the shepherd’s voice by spending time with the shepherd _____
- B. I learn to distinguish the shepherd’s voice: _____

1 John 4:1, ¹ *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God*

1 Thessalonians 5:21, ²¹ *Test all things; hold fast what is good.*

1. It will be consistent with the Word of God
2. It will be consistent with who I am
3. It will be confirmed by Godly counsel
4. It will be impossible for me to resist
5. It will require me to exercise faith