



THE HEART OF A SHEPHERD

December 16, 2018

Pastor Derek Forseth



LUKE 2:8-20

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.



LUKE 2:8-20

¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,



LUKE 2:8-20

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."



LUKE 2:8-20

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.



LUKE 2:8-20

¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



1 PETER 5:5

In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SHEPHERDS:

- How many of them heard?
- How many of them went?
- Who tended the sheep?
- How many stables do they have to check?



THREE TAKEAWAYS

1. They recognized God's message to them.
2. They responded to God's message.
3. They responded joyfully.



LUKE 2:8-20

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JOHN 10:1-18

"Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

JOHN 10:1-18

⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and 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 because they do not recognize a stranger's voice." ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech, but the Pharisees did not understand what he was telling them.



JOHN 10:1-18

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture.



JOHN 10:1-18

¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. ¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it.



JOHN 10:1-18

¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.



JOHN 10:1-18

¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again.



JOHN 10:1-18

¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."



JOHN 10:26-28

But you do not believe because you are not my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.



GOD SPEAKS TO US:

- Through His Word
- Through the prompting of the Holy Spirit
- Through our life experiences

HOW TO HEAR HIS VOICE MORE EFFECTIVELY:

1. Make time to read the word.
2. Put the word and prayer before our entertainment
3. Spend less time on screens

Silicon Valley parents are raising their kids tech-free — and it should be a red flag

Chris Weller Feb 18, 2018, 9:00 AM ET



Vitaminwater Is Offering \$100,000 to Ditch Your Smartphone for a Whole Year

Would do it for \$10.



BY SARAH RENSE DEC 15, 2018



CELINE

HOW TO HEAR HIS VOICE MORE EFFECTIVELY:

4. Treat fellowship and worship like an appointment that is non-negotiable
5. Talk about what God did today with our spouses, family and friends



LUKE 2:15-16

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

REASONS WE MIGHT USE TO NOT OBEY:

- Might not work
- Might have heard wrong
- What will other's say?
- Forgot what I heard
- Don't like what I heard



QUOTE

If faith is only part of your life doubt has
easy access. - PD



QUOTE

Many make Jesus Savior of their lives but
not everyone makes Him Lord.



GOD MIGHT TELL US TO:

- Reconcile with someone
- Give to others in need
- Walk by faith and not by sight
- Turn our backs from wrong behavior
- Receive healing from our hurts
- Put our past behind us
- Share our faith with someone
- Give generously or sacrificially



LUKE 2:20

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



If we don't OBEY we won't know.



THREE TAKEAWAYS:

1. God help me to hear Your message to me.
2. God help me to respond to what You are saying to me.
3. God help me to respond to what You are asking me to do with joy.



LUKE 2:20

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.