

Introduction:

- John 10:1-5
- "The blind man, so ready to heed the voice of Christ, clearly belongs among the sheep of this discourse, while the Pharisees are the very embodiment of the false shepherds." Morris, L. (1995). [The Gospel according to John](#) (p. 446). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.
- 1:5 I tell you the truth/Amen, Amen. Always follows up a previous teaching it never starts a new discourse. It indicates that the next statement is important but that it is connected to the previous thought.
- Setting is a walled enclosure with one door.
 - Any man that come in over the wall has no good in mind for the sheep or the owner. That man is a κλεπτήσ and a ληστήτ - a lying thief. The Pharisees are the thieves! 9:40-41
 - By contrast the Shepherd has the right to enter because the door/gate is opened to Him.
- Jesus just called the blind man to himself and made a worshiper out of him. But the Pharisees are heartless toward the man. They claim authority, but have no care for this sheep. John 10:1-6 is a word picture of what has happened in chapter 9.

I. The Shepherd Enters

A. The Shepherd does three things.

1. The Shepherd Calls the sheep
 - a) By name - personal.
 - b) Jesus knows all of us very intimately. He knows the number of hairs on your head. Mt. 10:30 and Luke 12:7.
 - c) akouei - to hear but as it is used here strongly suggests that the hearing is present in obedience.
 - (1) NLT adds words that are not there (*and come to Him*). But this is the honest implication of the word akouei.
 - (2) The voice is announced in His presence and the sound of it is "come here." Ie. Like a father who comes home from work, announces his presence and his children run to him. Ie. My dad could get of his truck say most anything and the livestock would come to him. A stranger could not do that.
2. The Shepherd Leads the sheep
 - a) Them out - as a flock. You call them by name. When all the names gather, you now have a flock.
 - b) And because the sheep know the voice they follow him out of the sheep fold into green pastures. He does not drive the sheep but leads them.
3. The Shepherd Walks with the sheep
 - a) Ahead of them. He sets the direction. He sets the pace.
 - b) They follow willingly.
 - c) Lets ask ourselves:
 - (1) Do we know His voice?
 - (2) Do we let Him lead?

(3) Do we walk in step with Him?

- B. These three (the calling, leading, walking) make me want to be a sheep of this Shepherd.
 1. IE. Jesus point is illustrated by the contrast of the Pharisees to Jesus. Jesus cares for the sheep. The Pharisee's could not find it in their heart to rejoice with the man who was formerly blind but now seeing.
 2. The sarcastically said, "Give glory to God. We throw you out." Where as when the man sees Jesus he willingly worships

II. The Sheep Respond

- A. The sheep do two things.
 1. They recognize His voice and come to Him.
 2. Jesus so lovingly desires this from us. That we would be so acquainted to that voice and what it means to us that we would hear it and run to it.
 3. Ie. Caleb when little, ran and jumped on my lap giving me a big hug. Said, "Hugs make you feel good and kisses make you tickle."
- B. They follow Him because they know His voice.
 1. the akaloutheo Him. The word used is also translated 'disciple'. It is what one who knows the Shepherd does...he follows him out of total obedience and understanding He is the Messiah!
- C. Vs 5 From a stranger they will run.
 1. The Greek word means to move with the feet off the ground. In other words they are scared, jump and are on the move quickly.
 2. The Pharisees were jealous of the crowds Jesus was attracting! Followers...disciples. And why not follow Jesus ...he was life giving!

III. Abundantly Ever After!

- A. Jesus is the door/gate
 1. Jesus is the door to the sheep vs. 10 John 14:6 "Jesus is the way truth and the life. No man comes to Father except through Me."
 2. Jesus is the door for the sheep. vs.9 You will go out and in with me. Never alone!
- B. *"The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life."* (John 10:10, NLT) Zoe! Vitality
 1. An overly excessive life abundant.
 2. A life of more than one could expect.
 3. The thief comes for selfish interest. Jesus comes to lay down his life for the Sheep.
- C. The apex of the abundant life is the worship of Jesus. This is what the blind man found when he found the door! He worshiped.

Conclusion:

- Jesus abandons His life so we can find abundant life.