



Marriage Growth-Track

Week 3 - Day 3

The Shepard's voice

By Jarrod & Katy Wilson

"...My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand..."

John 10:27-8

Even though Jesus appears to be speaking about the grungy little creatures who live mostly on grassy hillsides, there's little doubt we are the grungy little creatures He is referring to in this scripture. This is what we see in these verses:

- God's followers know His voice;
- God knows His followers and promises them eternal life;
- They are never in danger of being separated from Christ's presence

When Christians are united in marriage and consciously work to draw closer to God, they can't help but draw closer to one another. One of the best ways to do this is to have a daily Bible study with your spouse. Not some long, drawn-out, translating-stuff-back-to-Greek kind of study—maybe something as simple as reading the same devotional together every day. Or the same few Bible verses. Or discussing yesterday's readings.

When both spouses participate in a shared Bible study there are two BIG benefits—you both learn more about God and you learn more about each other. You learn through what lens your spouse sees things, maybe parts of their past that temper their understanding and acceptance of the Bible, and maybe how they see God's word as relevant to your marriage and family. Many Bible studies even have the potential to provide platforms on which to begin conversations over topics that have been troublesome in the past.

When you confront challenging issues through the words of a Bible study, you are setting the scene as a safe place to talk and discuss without the emotions of a heated discussion. Studying the Bible alongside your spouse may not change the way you see something, but chances are it will at least make you more understanding and accepting of your spouse's perspective—and that's usually a very good thing.

Discussion Questions:

1. As an individual why is it important to listen to the Shepard's voice?
2. As a couple why is it important to study the Bible together?

Action Steps:

Commit daily to spending time together discussing a bible study or devotion.

Prayer:

"Father God, thank you for the breath of life that you have given us. Father, thank you for loving us. We ask that you guide us and protect us daily. God, we ask that you give us the courage to seek your wisdom through devotions and Bible study time spent together. We pray that we can have meaningful conversations with one another as we study your word. Help us to grow closer together as we grow closer to you. Amen."

