

ALLEY SG – September 5th- 6th, 2026

Bible Story: How to Hear from God • *John 10:2-4, 14-16; Psalm 1:1-3; Romans 1:19-20*

Conversation Starter: What does it look like for you to hear from God?

Monthly Memory Verse: “*My sheep listen to my voice. I know them, and they follow me.*” • John 10:27 NIV

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Bible, “Sheep Fun Facts” Activity Page (double sided on cardstock – one per group), “Four Frequencies Matching Game Cards: Pictures” Activity Page (on cardstock and cut, one set per group), “Four Frequencies Matching Game Cards: Scenarios” Activity Page (on cardstock and cut, one set per small group)

What You Do:

- Show the kids the sheep on the “Sheep Fun Facts” Activity Page.
- Say, “In today’s Bible Story, we heard about how Jesus says His followers are like sheep. Let’s look at this sheep in the picture. What do you notice about a sheep’s ears?” (*Allow kids to share.*)
- Share with the kids some facts about a sheep’s ears and hearing from the back side of the “Sheep Fun Facts.”
- Open the Bible to John 10:4b NIV and read.
- Say, “This passage is talking about a shepherd and says, ‘... *he goes on ahead of them. His sheep follow him because they know his voice.*’ It’s so important for sheep to follow their shepherd. He knows exactly where to take them to find food, how to help them avoid danger, how to keep them from getting lost, and how to protect them. Jesus is saying that simply listening to His voice and following Him is the job of His followers.”
- Take the following cards from the “Four Frequencies Matching Game” set and lay them in front of the group: “Heart,” “Bible,” “People,” “The World.”
- Say, “In today’s Bible Story, we learned that when we take time to listen, we can hear God in four ways: through our hearts, the Bible, people, and creation.”
 - (*Point to the “Heart” card.*) Say, “This doesn’t mean the heart in our body. This refers to the part deep inside us that senses words or images God wants to show us.”
 - (*Point to the “Bible” card.*) Say, “God speaks to us through His Word—the Bible! In it, He gives instructions, wisdom, and inspiration for us to follow Him.”
 - (*Point to the “People” card.*) Say, “God uses people who follow Him to help us understand His words and to speak to us, such as leaders in church, your parents, or other trusted adults in your life.”
 - (*Point to the “The World” card.*) Say, “The Bible says that God shows Himself through what He has created. The sky, oceans, land, and animals all tell of God’s creativity and power.”
- Say, “We’re going to play a matching game to explore some scenarios of God speaking in our daily lives.”
- Mix up the sixteen cards from the “Four Frequencies Matching Game” Activity Page, and lay them face down in a 4x4 grid.

- Have kids take turns turning over cards to match a scenario with a way God speaks. Go around the group until all the “Scenarios” cards are matched with the “Pictures” cards.

Say: “Nice work! It’s important to know that God is speaking to us in so many different ways and that you and I can hear from God.

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: Plastic cups (one per kid), Plastic spoons (one per kid)

- Have kids sit facing away from the leader. (They will need to use their hearing for this activity.)
- Give each kid a cup and spoon.
- Instruct the kids to put their cups face down.
- Say, “We’re going to play a different type of follow-the-leader game today. Instead of using our bodies, I’m going to have you follow me by using your ears, a spoon, and a cup. I will tap a pattern with my spoon on my cup, then pause. When I say, ‘Go,’ you will repeat the pattern back to me.”
- Say, “You’ll need to listen very carefully to the pattern that I tap and wait for me to say, ‘Go’ to play the pattern back to me. I’ll start simple, and when you get the hang of it, I’ll make the patterns more challenging.”
- Play a simple pattern for the group, such as *tap-pause-tap-pause-tap*. Say, “Go” and have the kids repeat the pattern back by tapping their spoon on their cup.
- Continue to play patterns and have the kids repeat the patterns back, progressing from easy to more challenging.
- *Optional: Once the kids get the hang of it, have them take turns being the one to create a pattern while the rest of the group repeats it.*

Say: “This game required you to intentionally listen to be able to remember what you heard and repeat the patterns back. Being able to hear from God is similar because we need to be intentional about listening to Him so we can hear Him. Listening is an important part of following. God wants to speak with you! And He will speak to you through your heart, through what He has said in the Bible, through listening to trusted people who follow God, and observing the world He made.”

3. Discussion Questions

- Why is it important to hear from God?
- What distractions or “noises” make hearing God challenging?
- Read John 10:3 NIV. Does the verse say it’s the sheep’s job to listen or to hear? Why is this important to know?
- What has God given us to be able to hear Him?
- **What does it look like to hear from God?**

4. Verses to Take with You

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- Give every kid a Bible.
- Invite them to look up John 10:27.
- Read the Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Choose one kid to be the “listener.”
- Have the listener stand in front of the group and try to say the Memory Verse out loud.
- While the listener says the Memory Verse, invite the rest of the group to create distractions, such as snapping, clapping, singing, and playing upbeat music.
- After the first round, have the same listener say the Memory Verse again with no distractions.
- If time allows, choose another listener and repeat.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL: PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*”
- “God, thank You for caring so much about us that You want to talk to us. Help us to hear You over the noises and distractions of life. Teach us how to listen to You. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”
- Remind the kids that when they leave, their parents should get a text message on their phones telling them what we learned this week. AND they will get a link to an activity they can do at home and bring back for alley cash!

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive, remind kids that they can hear from God this week!