

Gospel Lighthouse Church
2/22/26

God's Voice Series 5
Recognizing God's Voice II

Text: I Kings 19:13c, 14a and 19a; John 10:26-30.

- “Suddenly a voice *came* to him, and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”—I Ki. 19:13c.
- “And he said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts...”—I Ki. 19:14a.
- “So he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat...”—I Ki. 19:19a

Introduction: Many believers ask, “How do I know God is speaking to me?” In Elijah’s story and in Jesus’ words in John 10, we see that God’s voice is not distant or hidden, but recognizable—even in a whisper. Jesus does not give a formula for hearing Him; He points to relationship: “My sheep hear My voice... I know them, and they follow Me.” Those who belong to Him recognize His voice because they know Him, and that recognition leads to following with assurance, not anxiety. A sense of security helps in recognizing His voice. Jesus expresses that assurance threefold.

1. The gift of eternal relationship/eternal life—v28a.

- “*I give them eternal life.*” Eternal life is not a reward for good listening or good following. It is a gift. The action belongs to Jesus. Hearing and following don’t produce life—**life produces hearing and following.**

2. The guarantee to never perish — internal loss is ruled out—v28b.

- “*And they shall never perish.*”-- **to destroy, to lose, or to be ruined, conveying the idea of complete loss or destruction rather than mere physical death.**
- Jesus uses the strongest Greek wording available to deny a future outcome. He’s not saying perishing is unlikely—He’s saying it **will not happen.**

The form of the verb looks at perishing as a complete event and says that event will never occur. Even failure, wandering, or weakness will not end in irreversible loss. There is no expiration date on His promise.

3. The guardship of double security—vv28c–30.

- “*No one will snatch them out of my hand... nor out of my Father’s hand.*”
- The word “snatch” means to seize by force. Jesus says that simply cannot happen. What is ruled out internally—being lost—is also ruled out externally—being taken. The sheep are held by the Son and secured by the Father.

Harriet Tubman: Despite slave catchers, violence, and overwhelming odds, her life bears witness to Jesus’ promise that no one can snatch His sheep out of His hand. The security she lived from did not come from her strength, but from the Shepherd who held her. External danger does not cancel internal security.

Conclusion: Jesus does not say His sheep never struggle. He says they are **known, kept, and secure.**

They hear His voice because they belong to Him. They follow Him because He leads them.

They are safe—not because they hold tightly to Him—but because **He holds tightly to them.**

When a sheep strays, it still recognizes the sound of the Shepherd’s voice—and comes home when He calls.

JDF

Dr. Jerry D. Fryar, Senior Pastor