

## PASTOR'S PEN

### JOHN 10:4

“...the sheep follow him, because they know his voice.”



*“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”*

I've heard tell that sheep learn the voice of their own master and can distinguish it from the voice of others. When this voice calls they follow. This voice is trustworthy. It is the voice of both protection and food. (The same is true for my dog. He even knows the sound of the motor of my car from down the street!).

How well do we know the voice of the shepherd Jesus? There are many voices that call: voices that make demands on us, and voices to which we are drawn. How can we distinguish Jesus' voice among the others?

The voice of Jesus calls to his disciples throughout the Gospels and still today.

“Follow me”. That means to get behind a leader and move forward. That means often leaving things behind in favor of the call to follow. It also means gaining an utmost assurance, because this shepherd has the best interest of the sheep in mind, even at his own cost.

*“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep”*

You can't get a deeper commitment to your well-being than from the Good Shepherd! How do you even respond to something like that?

*WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS  
CROSS. ON WHICH THE PRINCE OF  
GLORY DIED.*

*LOVE SO AMAZING, SO DIVINE,  
DEMANDS MY SOUL, MY LIFE, MY ALL.*

*When I survey the wondrous cross. On which the  
prince of Glory died.*

*Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my  
life, my all.*

In awe of what Jesus has done in laying down  
his life, you get up and follow. You give

yourself, your life, your *all* over to hearing his  
voice, above all the others in your life, and  
following.

I don't claim this is easy. The distractions are  
many and even for those deeply committed.

## GOOD SHEPHERD

*"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for t*

