

# 96th – Bible Seeds Podcast

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## Intro Music – “My Father Is So Good To Me”

[written and performed by Carl Vasta]

Hi, my name is Carl Vasta and I would like to welcome you to the Bible Seeds section here, at Understanding God’s Word. This is where I get to comment on biblical readings and stories that brings the bible into what’s happening to us in our daily lives.

I’ll touch on such topics as Family Prayer or Why I Believe There Is A God. I’ll talk about what was predicted that makes these the Terrible Times In The Last Days or how to Have A Daily Meaningful Relationship With God.

Today's topic: **My Sheep Know My Voice**

For thousands of years, shepherds who live In Israel or the Eastern part of that world, have brought their flocks of sheep into one centralized sheepfold, which is an enclosure made of stone, wood, or a combination of both. It has sturdy walls or fences that prevent the sheep from wandering off or being attacked by predators and keep the sheep safe at night or during bad weather.

There are usually five or six dozen flocks of sheep from different shepherds gathered together in this one place and guarded by a gatekeeper who oversees the sheep behind locked doors or fences.

In the morning the shepherds return and each calls his own sheep. Although the flocks have been mingled together, each flock knows its own shepherd's voice, and follows its own shepherd and will not follow any other.

In the **book of John, Chapter 10: verses 1-6**, Jesus is speaking to His disciples,

***“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, is a thief and a robber.***

***But he who enters by the door is a shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. Yet, by no means will they follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.”***

***Jesus told them this parable, but they did not understand what He meant.***

Jesus was trying to tell them that the ***Father is the gatekeeper at Kingdom of Heaven, who recognizes Jesus as the Shepherd He sent to the sheep.***

God even told the prophets, of the signs of Jesus’ coming to Earth, ***so that the sheep would know that the door was opened by the fulfillment of the many specific prophecies about Jesus,*** who is the real Shepherd sent by the Father.

✓ In the **Old Testament book of Micah, Chapter 5: verses 1-3** - The LORD says, ***“Bethlehem Ephrathah, you are one of the smallest towns in Judah, but out of you I will bring a ruler for Israel, whose family line goes back to ancient times.”***

***So the Lord will abandon his people to their enemies until the woman who is to give birth has her son. Then those Israelites who are in exile will be reunited with their own people.***

✓ And in the **book of Isaiah Chapter 7: verse 14**, he told us about **"A virgin shall be with child"**

✓ And in the **book of Isaiah, Chapter 9: verse 6**, he said, **"A child is born to us! A son is given to us! And he will be our ruler. He will "be called 'Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace,""**

### **Jesus Is The Real Shepherd Accepted By GOD, the Father!**

Jesus emphasizes in the next passage: **John, Chapter 10: verses 7-18** that others have come pretending to be the shepherd of the Kingdom of God, but they have not entered through the door of God's Kingdom!

***Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.***

***"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold;***

***(Gentiles) them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.***

***“Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”***

What about the statement Jesus says, ***“My sheep hear my voice?”*** ***Why don’t we take that seriously?*** Keep in mind that God spoke to His people ***directly***, even though there was some written scripture. And even through Revelation in our standard bibles! Those people heard God! ***The bible makes the point that God has not changed!***

***Does that mean God talks to His people today? Yes!*** Those who put their faith in Him and listen will hear His voice. ***Jesus backs it up by saying at the last supper: “The Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name will instruct you in everything, and remind you of all that I told you”...and...“When he comes, however, being the Spirit Of Truth, he will guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but will speak only what he hears, and will announce to you the things to come. In doing this he will give glory to me, because he will have received from me what he will announce to you.”***

**[ John, Chapter 14: verse 26 & Chapter 16: verses 13-15 ]**

But let’s examine the fact that many people heard Jesus preaching from a boat off-shore at Lake Galilee. Did you ever try to talk to someone at the beach so they could hear you! If you think that is hard to imagine, how about Jesus preaching at a place where he fed 5000 men, not counting the women and children. ***What was the miracle?*** They all heard Him! No amplifiers! No microphones!

And finally! ***How many people say they have heard God speaking to them all over the world?***

### **Back Ground Music Starts and .....**

I would like you to know how much GOD loves you. He is ready and waiting to help you. You just need to believe that He exists and has created all things and has given ***His Son Jesus, the good shepherd*** to bring you back to him.

This is why I put together these pod casts, starting with **The Storyline Of The Bible**, 19 easy understandable pod casts that take you from Genesis, the first book of the bible- to Revelation, the last book of the bible.

And beyond that, there are **The Stories And Quotes From Jesus**, which will help you to strengthen your faith in God. And now I have just added these **Bible Seeds: Understanding God's Word** my commentary on some of these readings.

You can find all of this and print out the **PDFs** for **Storyline Of The Bible** and **Quotes and Stories from Jesus**. You can download the MP3s, Videos, and my original music from my website: [www.carlvasta.com](http://www.carlvasta.com) Everything is free and there are no sign ups. Enjoy!

### **Ending The Program**

This is your host Carl Vasta and I thank you for tuning in to Bible Seeds at Understanding God's Word.

**New podcasts are released on Sundays at 12:30PM Pacific Coast Time. God bless you and your loved ones and remember. . .**