



17 April week eleven (term one)  
4th Sunday of Easter

**Aim:** to look at how we listen to Jesus in our lives

**Game:** (for older children) **Know my voice!**

**What you need/Preparation:** Record on tape or cd, or even a video, snippets of famous people's voices. (eg. John Campbell, Helen Clarke, Spongebob square pants, the vicar, yourself!) Also, paper and pens for each group.

**What to do:** Divide the children into two teams. Explain that you will play voices of famous people. As you do, the teams have to write down the name of the person that they think it is.

At the end, check the answers and see how they did!

This could lead into a discussion about how we recognise people by their voices. Whose voices/opinions do we listen to most? How do we listen to Jesus?

**Game:** (for younger children) **Follow the leader**

**Preparation: Nothing!**

**What to do:** Get the children in one long line. The person at the front is the leader. Tell the group that they need to copy what the leader does. After a short time, change the leader by making the person at the front go to the back of the line.

At the end, you could talk about how easy it was to follow someone else? How do we follow Jesus? What makes it easy/hard?

**Story:** (John 10:1-10) **A Story about Sheep!**

Jesus said:

I tell you for certain that only thieves and robbers climb over the fence instead of going in through the gate to the sheep pen. But the gatekeeper opens the gate for the shepherd, and he goes in through it. The sheep know their shepherd's voice. He calls each of them by name and leads them out.

When he has led out all of his sheep, he walks in front of them, and they follow, because they know his voice. The sheep will not follow strangers. They don't recognise a stranger's voice, and they run away.

Jesus told the people this story. But they did not understand what he was talking about.

Jesus said:

I tell you for certain that I am the gate for the sheep. Everyone who came before me was a thief or a robber, and the sheep did not listen to any of them. I am the gate. All who come in through me will be saved. Through me they will come and go and find pasture.

A thief comes only to rob, kill and destroy. I came so that everyone would have life, and have it in its fullest.

**Questions:** See the games!

**Activity: Sheep chain**

**What you need:** A copy of the template, glue, cotton wool balls, pens and crayons to decorate, scissors, A4 paper cut lengthways so it two, long rectangle pieces.

**What to do.** Tape the two pieces of paper together to make one long strip. Fold in half lengthways, and then half again.

Trace the template sheep so that it touches the folded edges of the paper.

Cut out the sheep, making sure to keep some of the folded edges together.

Open it out! You should have a chain of four sheep!

Decorate with cotton wool balls. You may like to write on the back of each sheep who they represent for you. Eg. Mum, Dad, best friend, yourself, etc

**Next Week:** This is the last lesson for this term.  
The first lesson for term two will come out 26<sup>th</sup> April.

