

The Echo and the Truth – Youth Bible Study

Leader Guide

Purpose: Equip leaders (volunteers, parents, youth pastors) to facilitate a biblically-grounded discussion on truth, deception, and the Gospel using John 10:1-18.

1. Overview

- **Target Age:** 13-18
 - **Length:** 60-75 minutes
 - **Group Size:** 6-12 participants (ideal). Larger groups can be split into tables.
 - **Materials:** Printed student hand-out, pens, Bibles (or digital access), a whiteboard or flip-chart.
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2. Session Flow

Time	Activity
5 min	Welcome & Ice-breaker – “Two Truths and a Lie” (focus on media/technology).
5 min	Prayer – Invite God’s truth into the discussion.
10 min	Scripture Reading – Read John 10:1-18 together (read aloud, then silent reading).
10 min	Context Brief – Use the illustration:

In the woods, a hunter may use a call to imitate the sound of a hen turkey. To a gobbler, it sounds like exactly what he wants. He moves toward what he thinks will satisfy him, only to discover too late that the sound was false and the decoy was empty.

The world works in a similar way. It offers convincing substitutes for truth, identity, purpose, and life. From a distance, those things can look real. But they cannot save, satisfy, or lead anyone safely home.

Jesus does not merely offer a better option among many. He is the true Shepherd, and His voice leads to life. | 15 min | **Discussion Questions** – See section 3. | 10 min | **Application** – Practical ways to apply the study. | 5 min | **Closing & Prayer** – Summarize key points and pray. |

3. Discussion Questions

1. What are the most common “false voices” your group hears today?
 2. Why do these voices sound attractive at first?
 3. How does the Good Shepherd differ from a false voice?
 4. In John 10, what does the “fox” represent, and how does that apply to modern life?
 5. How can we test whether a voice is from God? (See 1 John 4:1, John 8:31-32.)
 6. What concrete steps will you encourage participants to take this week?
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4. Application Activities

- **Role-Play:** Pair up; one person acts out a “false voice” scenario, the other responds with biblical truth.
 - **Reflection Cards:** Provide index cards for participants to write one personal “echo” they hear and how they’ll choose the Shepherd’s voice.
 - **Group Commitment:** Create a shared list of actionable items (e.g., daily Scripture reading, limiting social media).
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5. Closing

- Recap the main truth: **Jesus is the true Shepherd; His voice leads to life.**
 - Invite a final prayer, asking God for discernment to follow His voice.
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6. Resources

- Leader’s copy of the Student Hand-out (PDF)
 - Bible (any translation) or digital access
 - Whiteboard/flip-chart for notes
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End of Leader Guide