

## His Master's Voice

I hate to admit this but I am old enough to remember the old RCA Victor logo, with a dog listening to the speaker of an old phonographic player. The tag line says the dog is “listening to his master’s voice.” The ad campaign dates back to the days when the ability to record something was not available to the everyday person. The dog in the photo is attracted to his master’s voice and sits dutifully by the speaker.



I recently heard a sermon that used an example of a children’s book that allows a loved one to record the reading of a story in the parent or grandparent’s own voice. The book becomes a treasured keepsake when the parent or grandparent is no longer around. Can you imagine the impact on a child hearing a story told by a loved one who is no longer with us? It keeps their memory alive and makes the story truly special. The Bible emphasizes the special relationship of people to their master in this familiar verse about a shepherd leading his sheep with his voice. *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me (John 10:27).*

We can only make that special impact on our children when we are “present” in their lives. As a parent or grandparent, take the time to speak to the children in your family about their faith. The window of opportunity to do this might be very short. Tell them about Jesus and what difference



He has made in your life. Tell them that Jesus loves them unconditionally. Tell them the stories of the Bible so that they will understand God’s message for their lives. When children hear these messages in your own voice, and from your own heart, it will make a significant impact on them.

You are the person they look up to. While it is important that children and grandchildren also hear God’s message from others, its impact is much greater when it comes from the people who love them the most. Faith begins in the family – even the extended family. With you reading the story it will become more memorable to the children.

To your child you are the master in the house. Take charge of the spiritual life in your family. Let them hear about Jesus from you. After all, you are the “master’s voice.”

**Scripture Verse:** *Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6).*

**Question:** Do you share your faith with your children or grandchildren on a regular basis? In what ways do you share your faith?

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father. Help us to develop a comfort level talking to our family about our faith. If we are uneasy, let us speak from the heart. Give us the words to say that show our own faith in You. Amen.