

hope

COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

April 24, 2022
Psalm 23: Our Good Shepherd

Verse 1: The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
what is mankind that you are mindful of them,
human beings that you care for them? (Psalm 8:3-4)*

Verse 2: He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me
beside quiet waters,

Absolute peace, safety, nourishment

Verse 3: ...He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.

*We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our
own way... (Isaiah 53:6)*

Prone to wander Lord I feel it, prone to leave the God I love...

Are you hearing the voice of the Good Shepherd?



...the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice... “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. (John 10:3-4, 14-15)

Have you heard the voice of the Shepherd calling to you? Come and follow me!

Verse 4: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Each of us will watch the people we love die, unless we die first.

All is well because all will be well.

Verse 5: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Wolves on the ridge.

Verse 6: Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
(John 3:16)*

HOME GROUP Questions for Psalm 23:

The Good Shepherd cares:

1. Do you believe God cares about what's going on in your life? Why or why not?
2. What effect does it have on you to say that God is not just our shepherd, but my shepherd?
3. What difference does (or could) that distinction make in your daily life?
4. In what areas do you have the hardest time trusting God?

The Good Shepherd provides:

1. The world tells us if we want something, we have to get it ourselves. In what ways have you gone along with that belief in the past?
2. What have you learned from going it alone, or trusting in something besides God?
3. What do you think you need most right now? When has what you wanted ended up being different from what you really needed?
How
4. did God show you he had other plans?

The Good Shepherd protects:

1. Looking back, can you see how God protected you during a time of trial—when you were walking through a dark valley? Explain
2. God's rod offers us protection and his staff provides us guidance. What forms have the rod and staff taken in your life?

The Good Shepherd never leaves:

1. Are you walking into a valley, in the midst of one, or coming out of one?
2. Do you ever ask God why you can't just bypass the valley?
3. Why do you think you've been led through certain valleys?
4. What has God done or taught you in the valley that you wouldn't have learned if things were great?