



Community Group Guide

The Good Shepherd

“Comfort and Confidence”

Week of August 23

Check-in

1. What lessons did you learn from your time in the Word this week?
2. Who did you share the gospel with?
3. What has God done in your life that's encouraging over the past week?

Scripture

Read *Psalm 23:4*

Key Point From Message

- We will have dark valleys
- The Good Shepherd gives us confidence in the midst of the dark valleys
- The Good Shepherd gives us comfort in the midst of the dark valleys

Other Scripture Referenced: *Ezekiel 36:22-32*

Discipleship Group Framework

D-group discussions in smaller gender-specific groups help to reveal our blind spots to sin. If this week is a D-group week, the discussions should be focused on confession of sin, providing accountability, and encouraging each other to live in the gospel. Focus on the questions under the “Discover” section and how this week’s Scripture relates to our lives.

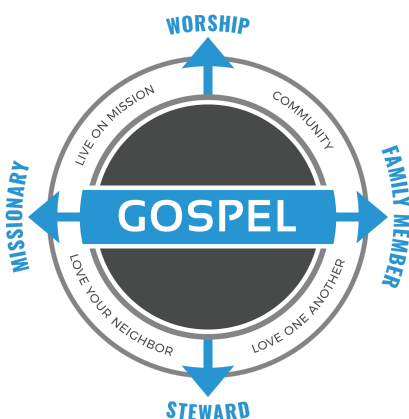


Image Church Core Values

When the gospel defines our lives it should impact everything we do. Living by the gospel should cause us to:

- Grow towards God through daily worship
- Love one another by gathering as family members
- Mobilize as missionaries for God’s kingdom
- Be more generous stewards as we leverage our time, talents, and treasures for Christ.

As we study and discuss the text from this week evaluate how you can grow in each of these four areas.

Discover

1. What stands out to you in this passage of Scripture?
2. What does the text say about the character and nature of God?
3. What does the text say about the work of God?
4. What does the text say about our identity?
5. How does this change the way we live?

Deepen

1. What challenged you about this week's message?
2. Share a story of a time you went through a dark valley and how God guided you through it.
3. Do you have confidence that God will lead you through a dark valley? What is a verse you use to remind you of this truth?
4. Do you realize when the Good Shepherd comforts you in times of struggle?

Action Step

Throughout life we will all go through dark valleys. The good news is just as God leads us in green pastures, he also leads us through the dark valleys. Are you ready to walk through the valleys that will come? Can you walk with those who are experiencing dark valleys? God leads us by reflecting in His presence, reading His Word, and seeking advice from His people. Evaluate and discuss which of these areas you find the easiest and the most difficult to seek God's leading. Discuss how you can help each other through a current valley or the next time you go through a dark valley.

For next week read Psalm 23

Memory Verses

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I have what I need.

²He lets me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside quiet waters.

³He renews my life; he leads me along the right paths for his name's sake.

⁴Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

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

⁶Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord as long as I live."

-Psalm 23:1-6 (CSB)
