

PSALM 23:3 He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake

CONTENTMENT DOESN'T COME FROM WHAT YOU HAVE, BUT WHO YOU HAVE.

ISAIAH 40:11 He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

WE NEED TO BE LED BY THE SHEPHERD BECAUSE AS SHEEP:

1. We stray.

ISAIAH 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned-every one-to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

JOHN 16:13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.

2. We stumble.

PSALM 25:4-5 Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

JUDE 1:24 Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy,

3. We stagnate.

ZEPHANIAH 1:12 "It will come about at that time, That I will search Jerusalem with lamps, And I will punish the men, Who are stagnant in spirit, Who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good or evil!'

The Hebrew verb translated as "lead" means "to guide" and implies movement.

PSALM 42:11 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God.

A CAST SHEEP CAN'T GET UP WITHOUT THE HELP OF A SHEPHERD.

A SHEEP BECOMES CAST WHEN IT'S:

- Out of shape.
- Full of wool.

IF THE REASON A SHEEP BECOMES CAST IS BECAUSE IT HAS TOO MUCH WOOL, IT GOES THROUGH A PROCESS OF SHEARING.

• Shearing-the process of cutting the wool off of a sheep.

EZEKIEL 44:17 When they enter the gates of the inner court, they shall wear linen garments. They shall have nothing of wool on them, while they minister at the gates of the inner court, and within.

THE DEEPER WE WANT TO GO IN GOD, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO KEEP SHEDDING THINGS THAT REPRESENT OUR OLD WAY OF LIFE.

OUR SHEPHERD SPECIALIZES IN RESTORING BROKEN PEOPLE.

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