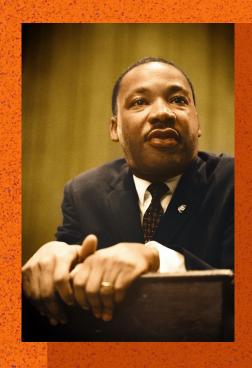
in the summer

READING PLAN: Text PSALMS to 97000



Martin Luther King, Jr.

"There is a desperate question on the lips of every individual. It is a poignant insistent question. The question is simply this—What is God like? The majestic Power that is the heartbeat of the cosmos—Who is He? This is the desperate, stinging, poignant question flowing from the lips of every man. Jesus answered the question in terms that every man of his generation could understand. 'God,' He says, 'is like a Good Shepherd."



Psalm 23:1 (New Living Translation)

The Lord is my shepherd.

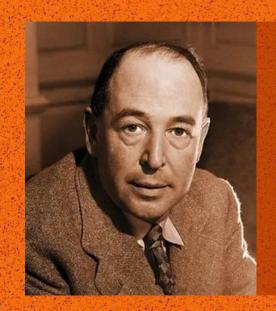


God is a **personal, providing God**



Can I honestly say that Jesus is MY shepherd?





C. S. Lewis

"The whole meaning of the 23rd Psalm is contained in the words 'The Lord is my shepherd.' It sums up the whole of Christianity. Our pastures are green, not because the sky is always blue, but because God is our shepherd."



Jesus's leadership is only as powerful as the amount of room we make for Him in our lives.



Psalm 23:2

He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams.



Where does he want to lead us? He wants to lead us to rest.



What is preventing me from finding the rest You want to provide?



"You must ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life."

—Dallas Willard



Psalm 23:2-3

He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams.

³ He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name.



Where does he want to lead us? He wants to lead us to restoration and righteousness.



God can't begin to restore what is broken in me if I am unwilling to give him *access to me*.



Is there any place in my life You want to work on restoring?



We are restored to right living.



Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.



Philippians 2:12-13

Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and honor. ¹³ For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.



Where does he want to lead us? He wants to lead us through the dark places.



Psalm 23:4

Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me.



Three things to remember in the dark places

- God is with us!
- God's protection is for us!
- God will provide comfort!



Where does he want to lead us? He wants to lead into His eternal dwelling place.



- 1. Can I honestly say that Jesus is MY Shepherd?
- 2. What do I allow in my life that is keeping me from the rest You want to provide?
- 3. Is there any place in my life You want to work on restoring?
- 4. Where are You wanting to reveal Your presence?

