STUDY GUIDE

ender Conversations

TENDER CONVERSATIONS An Introduction

This message series covers four special Sundays in November...All Saints Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Week, and Christ the King. It's a season where we encourage emotions to be felt and shared. This series allows us to create a worship environment where we can experience and express emotions regarding loss, sacrifice, gratitude, and hope through one of the most well-known Scripture passages, Psalm 23.

WEEK ONE – NOVEMBER 5 LOSS (all saints day)

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Begin by praying – asking the Holy Spirit to guide and direct your time together, to open God's Word to you, to grow you in your walk with the Lord and with each other, and to show you how you might apply what you learn in your daily discipleship.

READ: Psalm 23

During times of loss and grief, we're reminded the Lord is our Shepherd and we are His sheep. Through His care and guidance, we're able to experience peace, rest, comfort, and restoration while knowing we're walking with Him on the right path as we continue to live.

THIS WEEK'S TEXT: Psalm 23:1-3b

As we look at, consider, and get in touch with our text, we find the following points:

1) GOD CAN BE TRUSTED – HE IS OUR SHEPHERD

2) GOD GUIDES AS HE PROVIDES RIGHT RESPONSES AND RIGHT LIVING

- What do you hear God saying to you in this scripture passage?
- What does it mean to you that God is your Shepherd?
- How have you experienced Him as such His peace, comfort, and restoration?
- How would you share with another person what God as your Shepherd means to you and what it could mean for them?
- What do you sense God saying to you about your allowing Him to be the One to guide and care for you?
- What will be your "I will" statement for this week?
- What steps need to be taken to make this happen?
- Who do you need to tell in order that they might help and support you?

WEEK TWO – NOVEMBER 12 SACRIFICE (veteran's day)

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Begin by praying – asking the Holy Spirit to guide and direct your time together, to open God's Word to you, to grow you in your walk with the Lord and with each other, and to show you how you might apply what you learn in your daily discipleship.

How well did you do with your "I will" statement this past week?

READ: Psalm 23

While there will be seasons where we'll walk through the dark valley, we know the Shepherd is with us and will care for us—using all means to continue to protect, correct, and guide all through our life. Notice in this verse how the author changes from "The Lord..." to "You" as in speaking directly to God during difficult times.

THIS WEEK'S TEXT: Psalm 23:4

As we look at, consider, and get in touch with our text, we find the following points:

1) GOD TRAVELS WITH US

2) GOD'S PROTECTION AND CORRECTION PROVIDES COMFORT

- What do you hear God saying to you in this scripture passage?
- What does it mean to you that God as our Shepherd travels with you?
- Can you share a time when you sensed His closeness as you experienced a "dark valley moment"?
- How would you share with another person who's walking through a dark valley how God protected you and that He wants to do the same for them?
- What do you sense God saying to you about your need to trust Him in difficult times and circumstances?
- What will be your "I will" statement for this week?
- What steps need to be taken to make this happen?
- Who do you need to tell in order that they might help and support you?

WEEK THREE – NOVEMBER 19 GRATITUDE (THANKSGIVING WEEK)

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Begin by praying – asking the Holy Spirit to guide and direct your time together, to open God's Word to you, to grow you in your walk with the Lord and with each other, and to show you how you might apply what you learn in your daily discipleship.

How well did you do with your "I will" statement this past week?

READ: Psalm 23

The Lord provides a safe place where there are meals, anointings, and cleansings to the point where we're overflowing with gratitude. This is a table that reflects God as a great host who's committed to His guests' safety and welfare. And while we hope we're not sitting at a table filled with enemies this Thanksgiving, we know that even as there are enemies all around us in this world, God is with us at the table.

THIS WEEK'S TEXT: Psalm 23:5

As we look at, consider, and get in touch with our text, we find the following points:

1) GOD SETS AND SITS AT THE TABLE WITH US

2) GOD ANOINTS US (ANOINTING OIL'S PURPOSES: HOLY/SET APART/APPOINTED AND HEALING)

3) GOD GIVES US REASON TO OVERFLOW (GRATITUDE)

- What do you hear God saying to you in this scripture passage?
- What does it mean to you that God sets a table for you?
- How would you share with another person that God invites them to His table?
- How have you experienced God's anointing that brings healing? That sets you apart?
- How would you share with another person God's anointing on your life and how they can experience the same?
- What do you sense God saying to you about extending that invitation?
- What will be your "I will" statement for this week?
- What steps need to be taken to make this happen?
- Who do you need to tell in order that they might help and support you?

WEEK FOUR – NOVEMBER 26 HOPE (CHRIST THE KING)

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Begin by praying – asking the Holy Spirit to guide and direct your time together, to open God's Word to you, to grow you in your walk with the Lord and with each other, and to show you how you might apply what you learn in your daily discipleship.

How well did you do with your "I will" statement this past week?

READ: Psalm 23

When we view the Lord as our Shepherd and King who provides contentment and rest, a Shepherd and King who's with us even during the darkest times, and who sets a table of gratitude for us, we can have the hope and assurance that the Lord's goodness is with us and will be with us all of our days. But will we be willing to consistently dwell/spend time with/intentionally live with him?

THIS WEEK'S TEXT: Psalm 23:6

As we look at, consider, and get in touch with our text, we find the following points:

1) GOD IS READY TO PURSUE US WITH GOODNESS AND LOVE

2) ARE WE WILLING TO DWELL WITH THE LORD?

- What do you hear God saying to you in this scripture passage?
- What does it mean to you to find yourself in God's goodness and mercy?
- How have you experienced His goodness and mercy?
- How would you share God's goodness and mercy with another person?
- What does it mean to you to dwell in the house of the Lord?
- What do you sense God saying to you about seeking to dwell in the house of the Lord?
- What will be your "I will" statement for this week?
- What steps need to be taken to make this happen?
- Who do you need to tell in order that they might help and support you?