

# CONFIDENT IN CHRIST

## The Benefits of Trusting God



KEY RADIO, MIKE AND HEATHER IN THE MORNING

### CONVERSATION GUIDE

Psalm 23 is a comforting passage, but most people don't understand its depth. David, shepherd-turned-king, likens God to a caring shepherd. It's no wonder that 1400 years later, Jesus, the long-awaited Messiah, will describe himself and his redemption efforts in such a tender and loving manner.

*(Discussion inspired by 12-6-2018 Boris Rozumny blog and Max Lucado's "Safe in the Shepherd's Arms")*

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#### **GUEST PASTOR – CHAD JOHNSON, FELLOWSHIP BIBLE CHURCH LINDON UT**

#### **FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD**

Sheep are not like cattle. Cattle respond to the pushing, prodding, yelping, and hollering of the cattle driver. Sheep don't respond well to that motivation. Instead, sheep are followers – they need a leader. You, sheep, need to follow that leader.

#### **SPRINGBOARD VERSE**

Psalm 23:3b ESV

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake

#### **QUESTIONS**

- Why do you think that the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm is such a comforting scripture to the hurting? Some non-believers also take solace in this Psalm. Should they?
- Today we see that God leads us. Let's stop there for a minute. Why is it important that we understand he LEADS us and not PUSHES us? Practically speaking, how does God lead us?
- It is said that a sheep will follow the voice of their shepherd, and no one else's voice. How can we, as sheep, recognize God's voice? Once shepherd commented that sick sheep will follow anyone. Is there some truth to man's spiritual situation?

- “Paths of righteousness.” What does this phrase mean? Does this mean that God will only lead us to be righteous? Are there times when he might not do so?
- “For his name’s sake.” The name of God is powerful – we see this throughout scripture, especially in the Old Testament, where God’s people attribute a name to him after experiencing his providence. (Jehovah Jireh, Jehovah Rapha, Jehovah Nissi, Yahweh Ra’ah). What does it mean to be righteous for his name’s sake?
- What are the consequences of following paths of destruction, and thus marring the name of God?
- What do we do when we find ourselves wandering, following other “shepherds,” and leading a life where we talk the Christian talk, but don’t walk the walk? Is there hope for the wandering sheep who strays from the path?