

SERMON SERIES: SUMMER PLAYLIST

SPEAKER: RUSTY MILLER

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Key Line

“The 23rd Psalm”

Introduction

This past week we started our new series Summer Playlist. We talked about Psalm 55, learning that worship can drown out our worries. This week we continue Summer Playlist, and we'll be learning about Psalm 23 and the qualities of both sheep and shepherds.

- What sayings, quotes, or phrases do you tell yourself in difficult situations?

Seek the Word

Read Psalm 23.

- What characteristics of God are reflected within this psalm?
- How does verse 3 reflect God's heart for His people?

Read John 10:11-16.

- Verses 12 and 13 talk about hired hands working with the sheep. How is a hired hand different from a shepherd?
 - Why was it important for Jesus to give the example of a hired hand?
- For a shepherd, what are the essential qualities they must possess?

Go Deeper

The metaphor of the sheep and the shepherd is used throughout Scripture. Using the Logos or Blue Letter Bible apps, search for other areas of Scripture that this metaphor is used. Answer these questions.

- Who are the sheep in each passage?
- Who is the shepherd in each passage?
- Are there direct references to other Scriptures in each passage?

Talk About It

- To sheep, provision and protection are essential qualities of a shepherd. Is it easier to view God as provider or protector? Why do you think that is?
- What does it look like to trust that God is the Good Shepherd every day?
- Just like sheep, we are prone to wander. How can we keep ourselves aligned with Christ rather than wander from Him?
- God is the Good Shepherd in both the valleys and on the mountaintops. Is it easier to lean on God in the valleys or on the mountaintops? Why?

Wrap Up

Reminder: “No matter how far or how often you wander, Jesus continues to lay down His life for you.”

Challenge: This week, make a brief list of action steps to take in order to remind yourself that God is the Good Shepherd. Place this list somewhere you will see frequently.