

**Life is not a long series of mountaintop experiences. Life is a long walk in the valley with an occasional trek up the side of the mountain for a breath of fresh air. Then, it's back to work at the bottom.**

**Walking through the valley can bring periods of confusion or times of confession**

The Lord is my shepherd Psalm 23:1a

**How do we walk through the valley and not get lost?**

**Recognize the dangers of walking through the valley apart from the Shepherd**

The Lord is my shepherd Psalm 23:1a

**Harsh Terrain and Treacherous Canyons**

**Predators**

**Drought or Flash Floods**

**Poisonous Plants**

For thus says the Lord God, "Behold, I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out. Ezekiel 34:11

As a shepherd cares for his herd in the day when he is among his scattered sheep, so I will care for My sheep and will deliver them from all the places to which they were scattered on a cloudy and gloomy day. Ezekiel 34:12

**In the valley you must learn to differentiate the difference between wants and needs**

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Psalm 23:1

**The battle over what we want and what we need is a battle of contentment.**

Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. Philippians 4:11

I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. Philippians 4:12

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13

And He withdrew from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and began to pray, saying, "Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done." Luke 22:41-42

All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the Lord has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on Him. Isaiah 53:6