

SUMMARY

This weekend, Pastor Frank took an intentional pause from our sermon series to reflect on and shepherd us through the words of Psalm 23. In light of the losses our church body has experienced in recent weeks—the death of loved ones and the public martyrdom of Charlie Kirk—we mourn, lament, and take comfort in God's plan and promises.

1. Mourning loss.

- What does it mean to mourn?
- Share an experience when God restored your soul in a painful season of loss. What practices or people have helped you experience His restoration?

2. Lamenting

APPLICATION

- What are the differences between mourning and lamenting?
- What practices help you lament biblically instead of suppressing or avoiding grief?
- Psalm 23 is often read as a psalm of comfort, but lament is also a biblical response to pain.
 How do you see both comfort and lament present in this psalm?

3. Reflecting on God's Promises

- What promises are made in Psalm 23 about God in the midst of our trials?
- When you reflect on Psalm 23 as a whole, which promise of God feels most personal to you
 right now, and how can you hold onto it in faith?
- Thank God that He is our Shepherd who provides everything we need.
- Pray for the hearts of our church body to find true rest and refreshment in God's presence, even in seasons of weariness or grief.
- Ask God to restore the soul of our nation that feels heavy, broken, and burdened.

PRAYER

- Pray for the Spirit of courage to walk through "the valley of the shadow of death" without fear, trusting God's presence as we continue to speak the Truth boldly!
- Pray for faith to recognize God's provision even in the presence of trials or enemies.
- Pray for honesty in lament—freedom to bring grief and questions to God, but also the faith to end with trust in His promises.

