

PSALMS

Psalms 23 | I Shall Not Fear | Sunday, August 9, 2026

(5-10 min) Optional Ice Breaker: What is a silly or irrational fear you have?

LEADERS: Please share these announcements with your Home Group!

Announcements

Summer Training Series, Sunday, August 16 from 3-5 pm

Join us for our next Summer Training Series class!

This class will focus on experiencing joy-filled, unburdened parenting. With the distractions, demands, and busyness of life, parenting can feel overwhelming as we seek to disciple the children God has entrusted to us.

Kids Care is available upon registration for children from birth through kindergarten.
<https://citizenschurch.com/event/d9f7kms/summer-training-series-anti-anxious-parenting>

Read God's Word Aloud

Psalms 23:4 (ESV)

*4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*

PSALMS

Psalms 23 | I Shall Not Fear | Sunday, August 9, 2026

Discuss God's Word and God's World

Important: *The goal is to use this Guide to spark sanctifying conversation and opportunities for intercessory prayer, not to “get through” every question like a checklist. Feel free to linger on the questions that best facilitate that for your group.*

Start here: *Take a few moments to share and reflect together on what stood out to you from this week's Bible passage and the sermon about it.*

- **From the sermon:** If you were present on Sunday morning, what moments or statements stood out to you? How is the Holy Spirit using the preaching of God's Word in you this week?
 - **Share your story:** The “valley of the shadow of death” is an incredibly evocative verse. What personal experiences of suffering or trial come to mind as you read or hear Psalm 23:4?
 - **Confession & Repentance:** The valley can be a daunting place to reside. What are some of the unhealthy ways you respond to seasons like this? (ie digital or sensory numbing, hyper-control or self reliance, isolation and withdrawal from community, ruminating on the pain).
 - What are some biblical, gospel-centered communal ways to respond?
 - **Application:** The anchor of Psalm 23 is “for you are with me”. How does shifting your focus from the danger around you to the phrase "for you are with me" change your response to fear?
 - How have you personally experienced God's presence in the valley?
 - What verses, besides Psalm 23, do you typically reread in the valley?
 - **Practical group application:** Looking around the room, we are all in different places: some on the way into a valley, some currently in it, and some on the way out. For those in a 'sunny' season right now, what practical support can you offer those in the dark? And for those in the valley, how can this group best carry you right now?
-

PSALMS

Psalms 23 | I Shall Not Fear | Sunday, August 9, 2026

Sanctificational Prayer Guidance

Thank God for walking with His people through every valley. Thank You for never leaving us alone.

God, Your rod and staff give us strength, peace, and guidance through the valleys of life.

Ask God to comfort you in whatever valley you are currently walking through.

Family Memory Verse of the Month for August

Only fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you.

1 Samuel 12:24 (ESV)