

Week #8: PSALM 23 – A Song of Guidance

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness

for his name's sake.

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.

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

forever.

Psalm 23 (ESV)

•	Jesus is the great	and we	are his
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[&]quot;A thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy. But I came so that my sheep will have life and so that they will have everything they need. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep." John 10:10-11 (GW)

Jesus ______ and _____ my needs. (v.1-3) Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28 (VOICE) Jesus leads me in the _______. (v.3-4) "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27 (NLT) Jesus is with me through every _____ and ______. (v.5) "...And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:20 (NLT) Jesus saves me both _____ and ______. (v.6)

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears what I say and believes in the One who sent me has eternal life. That person will not be judged guilty but has already left death and entered life."

John 5:24 (NCV)

Discussion Questions

- 1. Psalm 23:1 says, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want." Does this verse resonate with you? Do you believe that God truly cares about every detail of your life, your wants and your needs? In what areas of your life do you find it difficult to trust that God is your shepherd?
- 2. Do you ever ask God why you can't just bypass the battles? Why do you suppose you've been led through certain battles? How have these experiences shaped you?
- 3. Who in your circle of friends and family is going through a valley right now? How can God use you to encourage them?

Recommended Resources

- A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23, by W. Phillip Keller
- Life Without Lack, by Dallas Willard
- The Lord is My Shepherd, by Robert J. Morgan

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Jesus is the great <u>SHEPHERD</u> and we are his <u>SHEEP</u>.

"A thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy. But I came so that my sheep will have life and so that they will have everything they need. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep."

John 10:10-11 (GW)

How does Jesus care for me?

Jesus KNOWS and MEETS my needs. (v.1-3)

Come to Me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28 (VOICE)

• Jesus leads me in the <u>RIGHT DIRECTION</u>. (v.3-4)

"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." John 10:27 (NLT)

• Jesus is with me through every **BATTLE** and **BLESSING**. (v.5)

"...And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:20 (NLT)

• Jesus saves me both NOW and FOREVER. (v.6)

"I tell you the truth, whoever hears what I say and believes in the One who sent me has eternal life. That person will not be judged guilty but has already left death and entered life."

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ESV (English Standard Version) NLT (New Living Translation GW (GOD'S WORD Translation) NCV (New Century Version) VOICE (The Voice Translation)