



Sermon Discussion Guide

JUNE 30, 2019 • THE SHEPHERD'S PSALM • EMILY VERMILYA
PSALM 23

ACCEPT

- When I share with my group, am I open and honest with them and do I lead with vulnerability?

ENCOURAGE

“For your ways are in full view of the Lord,
And he examines all your paths.
The evil deeds of the wicked ensnare them;
The cords of their sins hold them fast.
For lack of discipline they will die,
Led astray by their own great folly.” **Proverbs 5:21-23**

- What were the positive, encouraging experiences people saw this week? Where might God have been in those situations?
- What were some of the difficult situations or experiences of the week? Where might God have been during those times?

Share Scriptural words of encouragement with each other based on how you have been praying for each other this week.

TEACH

Teaching Summary

Psalm 23 is often referred to as the most widely-known Psalm in the Bible. We learn it early in our journeys with Christ and recite it often. But there is a distinct difference in knowing the Psalm and living it. As a Psalm of assurance, Psalm 23 is intended as a Psalm for living—providing us with an expression of confidence in God, our great Shepherd, who will provide for every need.

Review Questions

1. How do you distinguish between what you want and what you need?
2. How has God provided for you in the past? What did His provision look like then?
3. Are you uncertain of anything presently or in your future? If so, what?
4. What does it look like for you to live today according to this psalm?

Transformation Questions

1. What do you think God is saying to you?
2. What is keeping you from doing this?
3. If you were to do it, what might be a good first step?
4. Who will you tell? Or who will you ask to help you?

REFLECT AND CORRECT

- Take a moment and look back on your day or week; ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you mistakes big or small that you might have made. Ask God for healing of any harm that might have been done and help to get over it.
- If you sinned, ask God to forgive you and seek forgiveness from others if you sinned against them.
- Confess these things to your team or group so that they may forgive you and bring restoration to you.

SERVE

- What are three ways can I serve another member of my team or group this week?
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PRAY

Here is a guided prayer based on Psalm 23. The leader can start and people in the group can finish each sentence.

“The Lord is my shepherd.”

(give people a moment to be silent and listen)

- “I have all that I need. God, thank you for providing in my need of...”
- “He lets me rest in green meadows and renews my strength. Lord, I have been weary because...”
- “In the darkest of valleys, you are close beside me. Lord, I need your comfort and protection in my fears of...”

“Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever.”

Amen.

*Share ways you can pray for each other over the coming week.
Spend time praying with each other now, listening to God for ways to pray.*