



(Memory Verse: Psalm 19:14)

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD!

(Psalm 23)

I. MY SHEPHERD PROVIDES!

*Follow the **Good Shepherd** to find true contentment!

1. "I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock *with* one shepherd" (John 10:14-16).
2. The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake (Psalm 23:1-3).
3. I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. 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. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me (Philippians 4:11b-13).

II. MY SHEPHERD PROTECTS!

* Follow the **Great Shepherd** to live fearlessly amidst life's trials!

1. Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, *even* Jesus our Lord, equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* the glory forever and ever. Amen (Hebrews 13:20, 21).
2. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I 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 (Psalm 23:4, 5a; see also Isaiah 53:6).

III. MY SHEPHERD PREPARES!

* Follow the **Chief Shepherd** to have confident hope for the future!

1. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory (1 Peter 5:4).

2. You have anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever (Psalm 23:5b, 6).

Sermon by Pastor Rod Akins, November 13th, 2022

LIFE GROUP FLOW AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

“THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD”

An important Guideline of Life Groups: Every person serves both as a shepherd to others and lives as a sheep to be shepherded. Life Groups help you follow the True Shepherd Jesus, but also we need to attract others to Jesus too!

Getting Started:

1. How do you know if you're following Jesus as your Good Shepherd (1 Peter 2:25)?
2. The LORD's personal name *YAHWEH*, "I Am who I Am" is used 6,828 times in Scripture. Why do you think He makes Himself known so often as our covenant keeping God?

Discussing Truths:

1. How has the LORD provided for your needs? What image do you have of our LORD as your personal shepherd (Isaiah 40:10, 11)?
2. Do you struggle with discontent as a "prison of want"? What did Paul learn about being content (Philippians 4:11-13)?
3. How has Jesus, the Good Shepherd slowed you down and "*made you lie down in green pastures*" and "*restored your soul*"?
4. Why is it imperative that we follow God's path (Psalm 23:3; Proverbs 14:12)?
5. Sheep are restless animals until four conditions are met: Which do you need most?
 - a. Freedom from fear (Isaiah 43:5).
 - b. Freedom from friction (Matthew 5:23, 24).
 - c. Freedom from frustrations (John 14:27).
 - d. Freedom from famine (John 6:35).
6. What are some valleys that you've experienced in life? How has God comforted you?
7. Why is it important that we don't give our enemy a seat at our table (Psalm 23:5)?
8. Do you have confident assurance of your eternal destination (Psalm 23:6)? What Scripture passages give you this assurance?

Now What? Application:

1. Are you willing to follow Jesus *in paths of righteousness for His name's sake*, regardless of the direction He leads you?
2. Memorize Psalm 23 and meditate on how good our Shepherd is to us! Praise Him!