

To Trust and Know God

Psalm 23

Becca Singley



Background

To live a life following Jesus, we have to know and trust Him. Join us this Sunday as we walk through Psalm 23, reminding ourselves of who our God is as our shepherd, how He walks with us through every season of life, and why we should put our trust in Him.

Sermon Text: Ps 23 (ESV)

- ¹ *The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.*
- ² *He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.*
- ³ *He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.*
- 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.*
- ⁵ *You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.*
- ⁶ *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.*

Discussion Questions

1. Preparation

- a. What is one thing you hoped to talk about today/tonight?
- b. What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- c. What stands out to you the most from this sermon?

2. Sunday questions (pick 3?)

- a. In Becca's introduction, she asked the question, "How do I live and follow Jesus?" How do you answer that question? What are the thing(s) you value most in your following of Jesus? Some answers might include community, Scripture, prayer, small group, etc.
- b. The beginning of Psalm 23 focuses us on God as provider. As Dallas Willard said, "What kind of a sheep lies down in a green pasture? A sheep that has eaten its fill. If a sheep is in a green pasture and she's not full, she'll be eating, not lying down." Reflect and share how God has provided for you. Be intentional to spend some time in thanksgiving this week.
- c. Becca said that a shepherd does not lead sheep into the bad. A shepherd always leads sheep toward the good. How do you respond to these statements? Have you seen God do this in your life in situations where you may have questioned those statements? Maybe this helps us understand Paul when he says, "*And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him...*" (Rom 8:28).
- d. Becca made the point that death doesn't touch us, only the "*shadow of death,*" because Jesus is always with us as he has promised. Where in your life have you found hope through his promised presence?
- e. This was Grad Sunday. You may not have a graduate or be involved in graduation activities during this time, but Becca encouraged our entire church body in two ways:
 - Model what it looks like to follow God.
 - Pray for our graduates, especially our high school graduates.Moving forward, what does this practically look like for you?