



SAFEWAY BAPTIST CHURCH WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

WHEN THE ROAD IS LONG

PSALM 23:1-3, PSALM 62:5-6

Lesson Text:

- I. God Is Our Shepherd Who Leads (Psalm 23: 1-3)
- II. God Is Our Shepherd Who Guards (Psalm 23: 4)
- III. God Is Our Shepherd Who Provides (Psalm 62: 5-6)

Main Thought: Psalm 23: 6

Study Questions

1. Why did the writer say he shall not want?
2. Where did the Shepherd lead him?
3. Where did the writer's comfort come from?
4. What did the Shepherd prepare for the writer?
5. What follows the writer daily?

Research Question

David describes God as His Shepherd. Jesus described himself seven times with "I Am"? What are they and where are they found?

YOUTH STUDY: CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S SHEPHERDING

PSALM 23

¹ The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. ² He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, ³ he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. ⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, 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 your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

I. Terms to Know [*Defined as used in Psalm 23*]

shepherd - to care for, look after, or take care of livestock, and to guard them from wild animals. [*God is the one who guides and protects His people.*]

pastures - places of grazing, such as green meadows, where sheep can find abundant food.

refreshes - to return or to come back. [*God prepares us for the deepest core of our being by restoring and renewing our souls.*]

valley - a low area of land between hills or mountains, typically with a river or stream flowing through it. [*difficult times, such as darkness, despair, defeat, or discouragement. The valley of the shadow of death is a place of danger, pain, scarcity, and the unknown.*]

rod - a short, thick, heavy stick that a shepherd uses as a weapon to protect his sheep from predators and thieves.

staff - a long, lightweight pole with a curved end that shepherds used to guide their sheep.

anoint - to rub over with oil or an oily substance. [He anoints my head with oil" signifies God's abundant blessings, His provision, and His care for His people.]

overflows - to go beyond filling something with a liquid, so that it gushes over the edges. [*has more than enough for their needs.*]

dwell - to inhabit or live.

II. Summary

- ❖ Psalm 23 is a Bible verse that conveys a message of comfort and reassurance that God is always with us, even when life is difficult.
- God's presence: Psalm 23 shows that God is always present, protecting, guiding, and loving us.
- God's guidance: God guides us and helps us make the right decisions.
- God's love: God's love is evident in his goodness and mercy, which follow us throughout life.

- God's strength: God's power can renew our strength, both physical and emotional.
- God's eternal life: God offers us eternal life in addition to blessings on earth.
- God's relationship with us: Psalm 23 expresses the relationship between God and humans, which is marked by trust, comfort, and the assurance of God's presence.

III. Questions

1. Why did the writer say he shall not want? _____
2. Where did the Shepherd lead him? _____
3. Where did the writer's comfort come from? _____
4. What did the Shepherd prepare for the writer? _____
5. What follows the writer daily? _____

¹Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago. ²You have made the city a heap of rubble, the fortified town a ruin, the foreigners' stronghold a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. ³Therefore strong peoples will honor you; cities of ruthless nations will revere you. ⁴You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall ⁵and like the heat of the desert. You silence the uproar of foreigners; as heat is reduced by the shadow of a cloud, so the song of the ruthless is stilled. ⁶On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines. ⁷On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The Lord has spoken. ⁹In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation." ¹⁰The hand of the Lord will rest on this mountain; but Moab will be trampled in their land as straw is trampled down in the manure.

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