

“Seeking peace gives you nothing,
seeking God gives you peace.”

PULPIT CURRICULUM

STILL WATERS
Psalm 23:1

1. REVIEW

Psalm 23 is one of the most familiar passages in all of Scripture. Why is this Psalm such a go-to passage for people, even those who don't yet have a relationship with Christ?

Read Psalm 23. David wrote this Psalm during a painful time in his life. Why do you think he chose to write about God's comfort instead of crying out for help like he did in other Psalms?

Why do you think David chose to use God's personal name (YHWH - "I AM") when referring to him as his shepherd?

2. ASSESS

Jesus shepherds in a variety of ways: as your present authority, as your protecting helper, and as your providing companion. Which one is most comforting to you right now? Why?

Instead of running from God during one of the darkest hours of his life, David ran toward Him by writing this Psalm. Think about a recent trial in your life. Did you respond like David did by drawing near to God or did you isolate yourself from Him and His people? Why did you respond this way?

3. APPLY

Write your own psalm - as brief or long as you want. Take these simple steps:

- 1) Spend a moment prayerfully reflecting on what is a burden or joy you need to express to God
- 2) Pick a theme of focus, like thanksgiving or fear
- 3) Use descriptive and personal language. Then, come to your next small group ready to bless others with your psalm.

Who do you know that needs to be encouraged with the words of Psalm 23:1? Take a moment this week to inspire that person through a note or call.

MY GROUP'S COMMITMENTS

SERMON NOTES & QUOTES

- 1A) The Shepherd is my PRESENT AUTHORITY.
- 2A) The Shepherd is my PROTECTING HELPER.
- 3A) The Shepherd is my PROVIDING COMPANION.

Use the space below to write down any memorable points or thoughts from the weekend's message.

5 DAY READING PLAN

DAY 1

READ John 10:11-15

What I learned (observation/interpretation):

How I will respond (application):

DAY 2

READ John 10:27-29

What I learned:

How I will respond:

DAY 3

READ Psalm 34:9-10

What I learned:

How I will respond:

DAY 4

READ Revelation 7:16-17

What I learned:

How I will respond:

DAY 5

READ Isaiah 40:11

What I learned:

How I will respond:

To learn more about studying the Bible, look for the "Essentials of Growing in Christ" class starting soon at your campus.