

Like

Part 3: Green Pastures

INTRODUCTION

"The Lord is my shepherd. I lack nothing." Is that your experience with God? You lack nothing? If not, then what does this verse really mean? For some of us, we are facing some difficult 'lacking' circumstances. For others, this is why they walked away from God. This verse might sound good on Sundays, but doesn't it wilt on Mondays in the harsh light of reality? The good news is that when we understand the context of this verse, we understand not only a powerful truth, but we also might see more clearly what God is like.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you know people whose dispositions are the same no matter what circumstances they have in their lives? What do you think accounts for their steadiness?
2. Would you describe yourself as content? If so, what do you think is helping you to be content? If not, what would it take to make you content?
3. Have you ever felt like God is leading you on rocky ground?
4. *Read Psalm 23:1-2.* Do you think this means that David had no difficulty at this time in his life? Do you think it is possible to say, "The Lord is my Shepherd. I shall not be in want," even in difficult times?
5. Jeff told us to keep our eye on the shepherd, not the pasture. What do you think he means by that?
6. What would it look like for you to really trust that Jesus is your shepherd? How can this group pray for you in this area?

MOVING FORWARD

Trusting that Jesus is your shepherd is a step-by-step process. The sheep would eat and keep their eye on the shepherd. They trusted that he was going to protect them and provide for them. Jesus tells us that He is our good shepherd. He is the one who has laid down His life for us. Jesus is not only our provider but He is our provision. How might believing in Jesus as your shepherd change your life?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

-Psalm 23:1-2