FALLING FORWARD STRUGGUNG WELL MAKES ME WHOLE The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. ²He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, ³he restores my soul. He guides 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. ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. ⁶ Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23:1-6

WE'RE MORE LIKELY TO FALL FORWARD

If WE BELIEVE...

... just because we find ourselves somewhere we didn't expect to be, it doesn't mean the Shepherd has abandoned us. Perhaps He's led us there for a very good reason.

... the Shepherd's greatest provisions are often found in the most unexpected places.

... the presence of our enemies should not be interpreted as the absence of our God.

... one of the greatest gifts faith gives us is an empowering perspective on our trials.

... there's never a day when <u>goodness</u> and love aren't pursuing us.

FROM JOHN'S TESTIMONY

Don't believe the lie that your <u>present</u> situation is your <u>permanent</u> situation.

God will either change your <u>circumstance</u>,
change <u>you</u> in the midst of it,
or both.

When you don't know if you have any <u>faith</u> left, it's okay to hang on to <u>someone</u> <u>else's</u>.

In crisis, we're often tempted to <u>isolate</u> ourselves. However, we struggle <u>best</u> when we struggle in <u>community</u>. Don't pull away!

> As long as we have God, we have <u>hope</u>, and we'll always have God.

> > NEXT STEPS

Suggested Reading (available at the bookstore):

An Honest Look At A Mysterious Journey by John and Joanna Stumbo