

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for
his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil:
for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of
mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for
ever.

What we won't tell the children in VBS: Psalm 23

THE LORD
IS MY
SHEPHERD; I
have
everything I need.
He lets me rest
in green
meadows;
he leads me
beside peaceful streams.
He renews my strength. he guides me along
right paths, Bringing Honor To His
Name. Even When I Walk Through
the dark valley of death,
I WILL NOT BE AFRAID
for you are close beside me. YOUR rod
and your staff protect me. YOU prepare a
feast for me
AND COMFORT ME in the presence
of my enemies.
you welcome
me as a guest,
anointing my head
WITH OIL
My cup overfloweth
with blessings.
GOODNESS
and unfailing
will pursue me
LOVE
ALL THE
days of my life
and I will live in the
house of
the Lord
FOREVER. Amen.

DAILY PRAYER AND READING

Inviting God's Intervention

Lord Jesus Christ, hasten the day when all of your people may know the joy, peace, and harmony of your kingdom. Grant unto me this day the power to live within your kingdom. In the name of Christ, Amen.

(A Guide to Prayer for Ministers and Other Servants, Job and Shawchuck)

Listening for God's Voice:

Psalm 23

Day 1 – Read this week's scripture lesson. Since the King James Version is so familiar, it is especially helpful to read this in a second or third translation. Circle or underline the words that seem important. As you read, imagine the setting. What are the sounds and smells?

Day 2 – Read the lesson again. After each verse, write down every question you can think of for that verse.

Day 3 – Reflect on the times and places when you have heard this passage. How did hearing this scripture in those times reflect your understanding of the passage?

Day 4 – Read the passage again, and mark additional significant words. Check these in a Bible Dictionary. Add answers or more questions to your notes.

Day 5 – As you read the passage again, notice whether it reminds you of other scriptures or stories. Where are

these images shared elsewhere in the Bible? Does the scripture remind you of any art, hymns or songs?

Day 6 – Review your notes. Read the passage again. List the themes you hear in the scripture lesson. What does the scripture say to the world today? To you?

Prayers for one another

Blessing

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me. And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd.

Arise and go in peace, and may the voice of the good shepherd be your comfort in sorrow and your guide in happiness. Amen.

*Table blessing from the
1965 Methodist Book of Worship*