



Series: Seasons in the Psalms, Reflections on God and the Significance of the Soul

Passage: Psalm 23

Title: The Great Shepherd; Still Waters in a Restless World

Speaker: Pastor David Menard 11/2/2025

Discussion Starter –A beautiful poem, Psalm 23 describes a person living in abundance, rest, generosity, submission, comfort, restoration, protection, transparency, and grace as a citizen of God’s kingdom. What contrasting words come to your mind to describe a world without God as your Shepherd? Do any of these “contrasting words” describe your life experience?

Consider Psalm 22 and Psalm 24

1. How have psalms 22, 23, and 24 been linked together by bible students over the centuries? What sequencing or time frame is implied? Which one describes our walk in the world?
2. What is the significance of The Lord being identified as “our Shepherd” in Psalm 23? How does this identification differ from Psalms 22 and 24? Are there similarities?
3. Who can be a part of God’s flock? What does it take to join His flock and enjoy these benefits?

Read Psalm 23:1-6

4. What do you know about sheep? How are they described in the bible? What are their strengths and weaknesses? What are some of their vulnerabilities?
 - a. Are you comfortable being described as a sheep? Why might this be a difficult identity for a person to assume?
5. What does the Shepherd provide for the sheep in verses 1-3? Why does He make such generous provision?
6. Who is our Good Shepherd? How is He described in John 10?
7. Why is death described as a shadow in verse 4, (1 Corinthians 15:55-57)? What is the source of our fearlessness?
 - b. Why is a life outside of the God’s flock vulnerable to fear of evil?
 - c. Can you confidently say, I will fear no evil? When and how do we learn the truth about ourselves, our values, priorities, and fears?
8. What is meant by the terms, “Your rod and Your staff”? How do these tools provide comfort when God uses them?
9. What does God provide to His sheep beyond comfort, (verses 5-6)? (even amid a walk through a valley under a shadow of death)
 - d. How does God’s abundant provision encourage you to press more firmly into God’s flock and allow Him to be your Shepherd?