

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 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. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 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 (NIV)

Not Want

No truer statement has ever been said. **What's that?** I shall not want. **Why is that?** You are my Good Shepherd. You have provided for all my needs. **How so?** Wonderfully so. You rescued me from a life without you. You took me off the path that led away from you. If I were to say that, "I found you", I would be quite mistaken. You pursued me. I was like a lost sheep that you relentlessly pursued. You would not let me go. You would not leave me alone. You would not let me live a life without you. You found me and brought me back to you. You redeemed my life. You paid for my sins. You cleansed my unrighteousness. You filled me with your Holy Spirit. You adopted me into your family or maybe I should say, "You made me a part of your flock." **Yes, I did.** You brought my bruised and battered and broken life to a quiet place. You made me lie down in quiet pastures and led me by still waters so you could revive, refresh and restore my soul. **Yes, I did.** You have been changing my heart and transforming my mind so I can think your thoughts, speak your words, and do your deeds. You made it so I could know and do your will. In other words, it could be said that you have led me in paths of unrighteousness for your name sake. You made me able to be a witness for you in the world. You made it so I could bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. **Yes, I did.** All through the ups and downs and twists and turns of life you have been with me to comfort, guard and guide me. Even in the very shadow of death or in the presence of enemies you have made it so I have had no reason to fear. I have been able to hold on to you because you have held on to me. You will never let me go. **No, I will not.** You have abundantly blessed my life. You have shown me your goodness, kindness, mercy and love both now and forever. The best is yet to come. One day I will come to live forever in heaven with you. **Yes, you will.** Thank you, Lord, that you are my Good Shepherd. I will love, follow and serve you all the days of my life. **That is very good.**

Lord, you have been so very good to me. You have provided all I have needed in life. You indeed are my Good Shepherd. I will follow you to where you lead me. I will do what you ask of me. I will allow you to take good care of me as I love, follow and serve you. Amen

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 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. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

NIV

Psalm 23:1-6

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

The LORD is my shepherd; I have all that 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 darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.

NLT

Psalm 23:1-6

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

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. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

NRSV

Psalm 23:1-6

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

THE LORD is my Shepherd [to feed, guide, and shield me], I shall not lack. He makes me lie down in [fresh, tender] green pastures; He leads me beside the still and restful waters. He refreshes and restores my life (my self); He leads me in the paths of righteousness [uprightness and right standing with Him—not for my earning it, but] for His name's sake. Yes, though I walk through the [deep, sunless] valley of the shadow of death, I will fear or dread no evil, for You are with me; Your rod [to protect] and Your staff [to guide], they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my [brimming] cup runs over. Surely or only goodness, mercy, and unfailing love shall follow me all the days of my life, and through the length of my days the house of the Lord [and His presence] shall be my dwelling place.

AMP

Psalm 23:1-6

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows. Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

NASB

Psalm 23:1-6

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

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. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 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. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

ESV

Psalm 23:1-6

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads 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 You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever.

NKJV

Psalm 23:1-6

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

A David psalm GOD, my shepherd! I don't need a thing. You have bedded me down in lush meadows, you find me quiet pools to drink from. True to your word, you let me catch my breath and send me in the right direction. Even when the way goes through Death Valley, I'm not afraid when you walk at my side. Your trusty shepherd's crook makes me feel secure. You serve me a six-course dinner right in front of my enemies. You revive my drooping head; my cup brims with blessing. Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life. I'm back home in the house of GOD for the rest of my life.

MSG

Psalm 23:1-6

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

Because the Lord is my Shepherd, I have everything I need! He lets me rest in the meadow grass and leads me beside the quiet streams. He gives me new strength. He helps me do what honors him the most. Even when walking through the dark valley of death I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me, guarding, guiding all the way. You provide delicious food for me in the presence of my enemies. You have welcomed me as your guest; blessings overflow! Your goodness and unfailing kindness shall be with me all of my life, and afterwards I will live with you forever in your home.

TLB

Psalm 23:1-6

Becoming Like Christ*My Shepherd*

A psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd; I have everything I need. He lets me rest in green pastures. He leads me to calm water. He gives me new strength. He leads me on paths that are right for the good of his name. Even if I walk through a very dark valley, I will not be afraid, because you are with me. Your rod and your walking stick comfort me. You prepare a meal for me in front of my enemies. You pour oil on my head; you fill my cup to overflowing. Surely your goodness and love will be with me all my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.

NCV

Psalm 23:1-6

My Shepherd

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Becoming Like Christ – Psalm 23:1-6

In Context: Read Psalm 23

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God's Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 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. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 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 (NIV)

Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

The LORD | is my shepherd, | I shall not | be in want. | He makes me | lie down | in green pastures, | he leads me | beside quiet waters, | he restores my soul. | He guides me | in paths of righteousness | for his name's sake. | 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. | You prepare | a table before me | in the presence | of my enemies. | You anoint my head | with oil; | my cup overflows. | 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 (NIV)

Praying The Scripture: ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, you have been so very good to me. You have provided all I have needed in life. You indeed are my Good Shepherd. I will follow you to where you lead me. I will do what you ask of me. I will allow you to take good care of me as I love, follow and serve you. Amen

What It Means: ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

How has the Lord been providing all that you need from Him?

When has the Lord had you lie down in green pastures so you could receive something for Him?

When has the Lord led you to quiet waters so He could revive, refresh and restore your soul?

How has the Lord guided you on a path of righteousness for His name's sake?

How has the Lord been with you to comfort you when you have gone through valleys of great difficulty?

How has the Lord made you able to thrive even in the presence of your enemies?

What goodness from the Lord do you have to look forward to now and forever?

Living It Out: ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Allow the Lord, your Good Shepherd, to provide all that you need as you love, follow and serve Him.

Seeing It Happen: ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord is your Good Shepherd who will provide all that you need.

Get Ready To Share: ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has provided you all that you need.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you allow the Lord, your Good Shepherd, to provide all you need.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will allow you to provide to provide all I need.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what do I need to receive from you today?
