

## Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside quiet waters.

3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

4 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.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; my cup overflows.

6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.





## Lessons from Psalm 23

Sometimes when we slow down and ask questions in a passage that is very familiar we can find new lessons to bless us. The first question to ask is:

### **WHO?**

*Who are the main people in this Psalm?*

Read through the passage and mark every reference to God including the pronouns.

*What does this teach you about God?*

List what you learn. Note the change of pronoun halfway through - what does that tell you?

When we describe God we usually use adjectives - describing words. What sort of words does the writer use? What does that teach you?

### **WHERE?**

There are six places in this passage where the Lord is our shepherd.

*Can you find them?*

Underline each one. What does each place represent and what can we learn about the Lord being our Shepherd?

**Cross References** : another passage that speaks of the same ideal

**Mark 6:34** How does Jesus describe the crowd? How does this contrast with what you learned in Psalm 23? Which best represents you?

**Rev 7:15-17** For how long will the Lord be our shepherd? How do these verses relate to Psalm 23:6

Use the lessons you have learned to write a prayer expressing to God what it means for you to say "The Lord is my Shepherd"