

PSALM 23

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

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures;

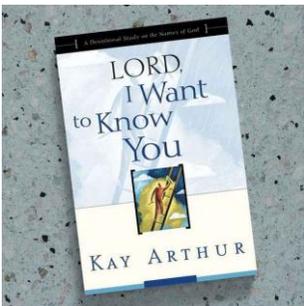
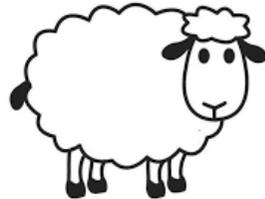
He leads me beside quiet waters.

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.



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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?*

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

2. *What does this teach you about God?* - List what you learn.

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

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

WHERE?

5. There are six places in this passage where the Lord is our shepherd. *Can you find them?* - Underline each one.

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

7. Cross References: another passage that speaks of the same idea!

John 10:14 Jesus says "I'm the Good Shepherd". Who's the Good Shepherd?

Mark 6:34 "When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things."

How does Jesus describe the crowd?

How does this contrast with what you learned in Psalm 23?

Which best represents you?

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"