



Week 2: I Shall Not Want

Pastor Stephanie Ehmke – September 6, 2026

Questions...

1. **Read Psalm 23:1**

When you hear the words *“I shall not want”* or *“I lack nothing,”* what does that naturally mean to you? How did Sunday’s message challenge or change your understanding of those words?

2. David experienced tremendous loss, disappointment, failure, and genuine need, yet he could still say, *“I shall not want.”* What do you think David understood about God that allowed him to say that?
3. The message made a distinction between our needs and our wants. Why is it so difficult to tell the difference? Can you think of something you consider *“a need”* that you recognize is actually *“a want”*?
4. Pastor Steph said, *“Contentment is not found in what the shepherd provides but in the shepherd himself.”* What would it look like practically for you to live as though that statement were true?
5. The message said, *“Comparison is the killer of contentment.”* Where does comparison most often creep into your life? How does comparing God's provision for you with His provision for someone else affect your trust in Him?
6. Sometimes our discontentment isn't caused by comparison or material desires; sometimes we genuinely lack something we need. How does trusting God look different when the need is real and painful rather than simply something we want?

7. **Read Psalm 13:1–6**

David moves from *“How long, Lord?”* to *“I trust in your unfailing love.”* What does this Psalm teach us about being honest with God while still trusting Him?

8. In the story of Peter walking on the water (*Matthew 14:27-31*), the wind and waves were real. Peter wasn't wrong to recognize the danger. What is the difference between acknowledging the reality of our circumstances and allowing those circumstances to become the focus of our lives?
 9. Peter began sinking when his attention shifted from Jesus to what was happening around him. What are the “*wind and waves*” in your life right now that most easily pull your eyes away from Jesus?
 10. The message ends with the question, “*What needs in your life, real or perceived, cause you to take your eyes off Jesus?*” Share one area where you need to intentionally move your attention away from what you lack and back toward your Shepherd this week.
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Closing Challenge

Before ending your time together, finish this sentence...

“Because the Lord is my Shepherd, this week I can trust Him with _____.”