

Discussion Questions (Psalm 23)

- 1. When pressure enters your life, what is your natural tendency?**
 - **Do you tend to worry, withdraw, try to control things, seek help, pray, or something else?**
- 2. David begins by saying, "The Lord is my Shepherd." Why is it significant that the psalm starts with who God is rather than with David's circumstances?**
- 3. In verses 2–3, David emphasizes what the Shepherd does ("He leads," "He restores," "He guides"). What does this teach us about our dependence on God?**
- 4. The sermon pointed out that "The greatest gift God gives His people is Himself." Why is that sometimes difficult to believe when we're facing hardship?**
- 5. Read Psalm 23:4. What stands out to you about David's confidence in the valley? How is his confidence different from simply being optimistic?**
- 6. The sermon noted that David moves from talking about God to talking directly to God in the valley ("You are with me"). How have difficult seasons affected your relationship with God?**
- 7. Psalm 23:5 shows God preparing a table in the presence of enemies rather than removing the enemies. What does this teach us about how God often works in our struggles?**
- 8. What "enemies" or pressures are most likely to steal your focus from God's presence right now? How can you intentionally fix your attention on the Shepherd instead?**
- 9. David says that God's goodness and mercy will pursue him all the days of his life. When you look back over your life, where have you seen God's goodness and mercy pursuing you even during difficult seasons?**
- 10. The sermon concluded by pointing us to Jesus as the Good Shepherd (John 10). How does Jesus' death and resurrection give you confidence that God's presence will never leave you, even in your darkest valley?**