Message Notes | Psalm 23

Part 2: He Leads Me

Psalm 23:2-3

→ the peace that comes with following

#1 Life is better when the <u>Shepherd leads</u>.

→ sheep have a difficult time resting - **vs. 2**

→ the shepherd creates the environment where rest is possible – **Matthew 11:28**

#2 The Shepherd leads me to <u>REST</u> by securing my value and worth.

→ sheep need to be restored – **vs. 3a, Psalm 32:3**

→ the shepherd loves the sheep – **1 Peter 2:24-25**

#3 The Shepherd leads me to <u>RESTORATION</u> through the cross.

→ the sheep are prone to wander – **vs. 3b, Jeremiah 17:9**

#4 The Shepherd leads me along <u>RIGHT PATHS</u>.

Group Questions | Psalm 23

Part 2: He Leads Me

Psalm 23:2-3

1. Are you someone who enjoys being in charge, making the plans, leading the way? Or would you rather have someone else take the lead? Explain your answer.

2. "Life is better when the Shepherd leads." Why do you think we sometimes struggle to follow God's lead? What are some areas of life where it's especially difficult to give up control?

3. **Read Psalm 23:2 and Matthew 11:28–30.** In the sermon, we talked about how much of our restlessness comes from feeling like we have something to prove. Where do you see that pressure showing up in people's lives today?

   How does Jesus provide an environment where we can truly rest?

4. **Read Psalm 32:1–5**. David knew what it was like to carry the guilt of his own sin. What are some of the ways people try to deal with guilt apart from God? Why do those approaches ultimately fall short of providing the restoration we need?

5. **Read Psalm 23:3a and 1 Peter 2:24–25**. In the sermon, we heard about sheep that become cast. How does that picture help us understand what Jesus has done for us?

   How might remembering Jesus as the Shepherd who comes to restore us change the way we approach God when we've sinned or failed?

6. **Read Psalm 23:3 and Proverbs 3:5–6.** Our culture often encourages us to follow our hearts and do what feels right. What are some situations where following our own instincts or desires can lead us down the wrong path? How can we become better at recognizing and following the direction of our Shepherd?