

# 5-Day Devotional: The Lord Is My Shepherd

## Day 1: The Good Shepherd Who Knows You Personally

**Reading:** John 10:11-18

**Devotional:**

Jesus declares, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." Unlike a hired hand who flees when danger comes, Jesus remains faithful. He knows you intimately—not just your name, but your struggles, your fears, your deepest needs. This isn't generic love; it's personal relationship. Jesus says, "I know my sheep and my sheep know me, just as the Father knows me." Consider the depth of that comparison—the same intimacy Jesus shares with the Father, He offers to you. Today, remember that you are not just part of a flock; you are known, loved, and pursued by the Good Shepherd who gave everything for you. He will never abandon you, even when wolves circle.

**Reflection Question:** Where in your life do you need to trust that Jesus knows your situation and will not leave you?

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## Day 2: When God Seems Hidden

**Reading:** Job 23:8-14

**Devotional:**

Job's honest cry resonates with many believers: "I go forward, but He is not there; backward, but I cannot perceive Him." Yet in the same breath, Job declares profound faith: "But He knows the way I take; when He has tried

me, I shall come out as gold." God sometimes conceals His presence not because He's absent, but because He's working in ways we cannot yet see. The discipline, the training, the uncomfortable seasons—these refine us like gold in fire. Job's commitment remained firm: "I have not departed from the commands of His lips." When you cannot trace God's hand, trust His heart. He is unchangeable, and He will complete what He has appointed for you. The testing produces something precious.

**Reflection Question:** What situation in your life requires you to trust God's hidden work rather than visible evidence?

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### **Day 3: You Cannot Outrun Your Shepherd**

**Reading:** Psalm 139:1-16

**Devotional:**

David's words reveal a profound truth: God's pursuit of us is relentless and loving. "Where can I flee from Your presence?" This isn't the question of someone trying to escape, but of someone overwhelmed by God's intimate involvement. God has hemmed you in "behind and before." Before you were formed, He saw your unformed substance and wrote every day ordained for you. You cannot hide in darkness; you cannot flee to the heights or depths. His right hand—representing strength and authority—will hold you. This isn't imprisonment; it's protection. God's determination to complete His work in you exceeds your ability to resist. David's response? "Search me, O God, and know my heart...lead me in the way everlasting." Surrender to the Shepherd who knows you completely.

**Reflection Question:** In what area are you resisting God's leading, and how can you surrender today?

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### **Day 4: Equipped for the Journey**

**Reading:** Hebrews 13:17-21; Ephesians 4:11-16

**Devotional:**

God never intended for you to walk this journey alone. He established shepherds—leaders who watch over your soul and will give account to God. Their role isn't to control you but to help you hear God's voice clearly, to remind you of what He's already spoken, and to equip you for works of ministry. The church isn't an organization; it's a living body where each part works together. When you bring what you have—like the boy with five loaves—and submit it to Jesus, He multiplies it beyond imagination. The God of peace who raised Jesus, the Great Shepherd, equips you "with everything good that you may do His will." You're not lacking. Walk in community, be persuaded by God's Word, and watch Him work through you.

**Reflection Question:** Who has God placed in your life to help you grow, and are you positioned to receive their guidance?

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## **Day 5: Choosing Your Shepherd Daily**

**Reading:** Psalm 23; Philippians 1:6

**Devotional:**

"The Lord IS my shepherd"—not was, not will be, but IS. This present-tense declaration requires daily choice. Will you make Jesus your shepherd today, or will you lean on your own understanding, other voices, or past experiences? God owns you; you were bought with a price. He is not safe, but He is good. He leads you beside still waters and through the valley of the shadow of death. Both are part of the journey. The promise stands firm: "He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion." God will finish what He started. Your responsibility is to follow, to seek Him with all your heart, and to trust His unchangeable character. Today, declare afresh: "The Lord is MY shepherd."

**Reflection Question:** What does it practically look like for you to make Jesus your shepherd today, not just in memory or hope, but in present reality?