

"He Leadeth Us"

by Rev. John C. Tittle

Scripture Reading: Psalm 23

¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. ²He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. ³He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. ⁴Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. ⁵Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of your favorite phrases in this passage? Did you ever have to memorize this as a child?
2. How has this particular psalm helped you in your faith and life?
3. How could this psalm help us in the midst of a pandemic and the turmoil in our nation?
4. Why do you think Psalm 23 is probably the most loved and most known passages in all the Bible?
5. How might this psalm speak to all the seasons of our lives—the good times, the mundane times, and the difficult times?
6. How is God like a shepherd? How are we like sheep?
 - a. Read Luke 15:3-7
 - b. Read 1 Peter 2:21-25 *How does Christ mix the metaphors?*
7. If God is with us through all of life's difficulties—rather than always sparing us from life's difficulties—why should we trust God?
8. Grammatical Questions:
 - a. Do you think this psalm is speaking to the present? To the future? To both tenses?
 - b. There's a change in the imagery David uses for God midway through the psalm. Do you what it might be?