

WEEKLY GUIDE

NOVEMBER 14, 2021

1
GATHER!
SUNDAY AND
THURSDAY

2
TALK!
DISCUSS THE
LESSONS

3
DO!
PUT THE
LESSONS INTO
PRACTICE

4
PRAY!
MAKE YOUR
REQUESTS
KNOWN TO GOD

BIBLE READINGS:

Luke 12:32; Psalm 23:1-3, Psalm 25:14; John 10:14, 27-28; Philippians 4:19; Matthew 14:16-18; John 6:1-13; Psalm 5:8; Proverbs 12:28

LUKE 12:32

32 Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom.

PSALM 23:1-3

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

JOHN 10:14

14 Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me."

JOHN 10:27-28

27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

PHILIPPIANS 4:19

19 And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

MATTHEW 14:17-18

17 We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered. 18 "Bring them here to me," he (Jesus) said.

JOHN 6:10-11

10 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down. 11 Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted.

PSALM 5:8

8 Lead me, Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies —make your way straight before me.

PROVERBS 12:28

28 In the way of righteousness there is life; along that path is immortality.

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DISCUSSION:

Why is the pronoun "my" so important in verse one of Psalm 23? What does it mean to have all that you need? How are needs different than wants? How does God take care of both our needs and wants? With the Lord as your shepherd, why can you say, "I shall not want?"

Why is the meaning behind Jehovah-Rohi? What do you think about the eternal, all powerful God revealing Himself as a shepherd and friend? What are some characteristics of a good shepherd? What is central to the relationship between the shepherd and his sheep? Why should they know each other?

What is the significance of lying down in green pastures and being led still waters? How does Jesus show himself to be the good shepherd in John 6 and Matthew 14? How are these passages similar to Psalm 23?

What was the disciples first resort to Jesus' request to get the crowd something to eat? In what ways do we look to worldly solutions to spiritual problems? What is a better way to handle problems? What "loaves and fishes" do you have to offer to Jesus?

Have you ever felt like you were straining at the oars? Explain. What happens when we take our eyes off of Jesus and start looking at the storm? How can you relate to Peter? How does God restore our soul? What path does God put us on? Where does this path lead? How does this relate to Psalm 23:1-3? What did green pastures and still waters represent or mean to David?

APPLICATION:

What impacted you the most from this lesson? What were your big takeaways? What will you apply to your life? How will you put what you learned into practice in your life this week?

SUMMARY:

Psalm 23 can be summed up with the first half of verse one: "The Lord is my shepherd..." If you make the Lord your shepherd, you can expect the benefits of being under His care, His provision and protection. With the Lord as the shepherd of your life you lack nothing and have all you will ever need. God will supply all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus. God wants us to get to the place where we stop looking to worldly solutions to spiritual problems. Instead our default should be to look to Him. Bring what you have to the Lord. Stop looking at the wind and waves. Don't doubt God, little flock. Keep your eyes on Jesus! In the same way that a good shepherd feeds their sheep and leads them besides still waters, God turns back or restores our soul from death. God pulls us from the icy waters and saves us and puts us on the path of righteousness. When we feel troubled, alone, or vulnerable, we should return home, to those places where God first revealed Himself as the good shepherd, where we learned of His faithfulness, provision and care.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

