

Sunday, June 27, 2021 - "Summer in the Psalms - Week 2 - My Shepherd (Psalm 23)" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Psalm 23

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Read the Psalms in 4 different keys: D = King David, E = Exiles (people of Israel, C = Christ, ME)
- Psalm 23 is essential in the life of a Jesus follower
 - Know it so we can speak it to ourselves (to be utilized not just memorized)
 - A "Trust Psalm" = sung or said to bolster trust in difficult seasons
- The Lord IS MY Shepherd: Not A shepherd or THE shepherd but MY shepherd..He cares for, leads, comforts YOU
- I shall not want (lack nothing)
 - He will supply all we NEED
 - There is definitely a difference between wants and needs
- v2: He makes us rest AND he leads us to move and to act
 - Contemplation and activity
 - The Christian life should always have both
- He restores my soul
 - Soul = living being, life, person, desire, appetite, passion, breath
 - What good are green pastures with a broken soul
- v3b: If we are willing to follow and listen, He will tell you what do and where to go
 - Our actions and reactions should point to God (for His name's sake)
 - We damage the reputation of God and the church when we step off the path
- Valley of the shadow of death
 - We all will go or have already gone through this valley
 - THROUGH the valley...not the final destination
 - YOU ARE WITH ME → Central point of the whole Psalm, transition from about God to talking to God
- Metaphor changes from a shepherd to a king: A great honor and personal invitation to intimacy and relationship
- We have an enemy
 - Key of C → victory over Satan
 - We're invited to the table and a feast with God...our enemy will sit and watch
- You anoint my head with oil
 - Anointing was always about commissioning...we are priests, God's representatives
 - We are called and filled - Overflow = saturated, abundance to excess, superabundance
- Goodness = plenty, Mercy = steadfast love
- Dwell in His house forever
 - A table for you. a room for you
 - To live with the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords
- All of this is only available through Jesus
 - He says: I am the only way
 - The shepherd king who offers eternal life to those who put their trust in Him

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What portion of Psalm 23 resonates with you most and why?
2. What does it mean to you that God is YOUR shepherd? How does that make you feel?
3. How has the Lord shown you the difference between wants and needs?
4. What would/does it look like to live the truth that God is WITH you?
5. What does it feel like to have your cup overflow? How do you know when this is happening?
6. What kind of images and sensations come to mind when you think about living with God forever?
7. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Psalm 28 Tues: Psalm 58 Wed: Psalm 88 Thurs: Psalm 118 Fri: Psalm 148

Songs from the weekend: [Your Great Name - Todd Dulaney] - [Shall Not Want - Elevation Worship & Maverick City] - [Goodness of God - Bethel Music] - [Alpha & Omega - Israel Houghton]