

The Shepherd's Psalm

Psalm 23 NIV

A psalm of David.

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.

⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,^[a] I will fear no evil, for **you** are with me; **your** rod and **your** staff, they comfort me.

⁵ **You** prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. **You** anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶ Surely **your** goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of **the LORD** forever.

Footnotes:

- a. Psalm 23:4 Or the valley of the shadow of death

Knowing About God to Knowing God

- The "My Big Brother Can..." (He – His vs. 1-3)
 - My God Can! MY – He's Mine!
- You – It's just Me and You (You & Your vs. 4-6))
- When you know God – You can do or face anything!
- **Daniel 3:16-18**¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to him, "King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. ¹⁷ If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, **the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us^[c] from Your Majesty's hand.** ¹⁸ But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

Learning to be Led

- He makes me... He leads me... He Guides me...
- There are lots of places that we would never go, but God needs us to go...
- Stop fighting the process.

Learning to be Cared for & Protected

- Green pastures, still waters & soul refreshment.
- Puts us in the right path/direction
- Even in dangerous places He is still pushing us and grabbing us out of trouble.
- Food for us even in danger – in front of our enemies.
- Anoints our head with oil – cleaning and caring for wounds
- Overflowing abundance!

The Promises are Real!

- **You are** WITH me! – I don't need to fear. (**Matthew 28:20b** And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.)
- **I don't lack** ANYTHING!
- Your goodness and mercy/love will follow me **ALL** the days of my life!
- **I WILL** dwell in the house of the Lord forever!