

# PSALMS: Week 3 – Wrestling with Uncertainty

## Open in Prayer

## Welcome/Introductions/Cast Vision

## Remind the Grow Group of the ground rules

## Share context of the story *[Provide context by sharing the information below.]*

Psalm 23 is often described as a psalm of confidence in the Lord's care. The Lord is described as a Shepherd who cares for His sheep (verses 1-4) and as a Host who cares for His guests (verses 5-6). Just like a shepherd, the Lord protects, guides, and provides for the needs of His sheep. The Lord is majestic in how He personally and faithfully attends to the individual needs of each of His lambs.

## Tell the story – Psalm 23 *[Have someone tell the story.]*

## Rebuild the story *[Group members tell the story together based on what they remember.]*

## Read the story out loud *[Read the scripture passage to see if anything was added or omitted.]*

## Discuss these questions:

1. What do we learn about God from this passage? *[God is the perfect Shepherd, faithfully caring for His sheep; God created me to enjoy an intimate and personal relationship with Him; God's love is completely satisfying and brings great contentment (Philippians 4:11); God guides me and makes my paths straight (Proverbs 3:5-6); God's presence is always with us (verse 4); God brings comfort and relief from the harsh aspects of life; even God's discipline of me is out of love (Hebrews 12:6); etc.]*
2. What do we learn about Man/Us from this passage? *[I should be overwhelmed by God's continual love and provision; like a sheep, I am prone to wander away from the Good Shepherd's care; I have been bought with a price and should glorify the Lord with my life (1 Corinthians 6:20); I can fail to acknowledge God's authority in my life; an abiding relationship with God brings great peace and comfort to me; I am always in need of God's guidance and direction; etc.]*
3. What is God saying to you specifically through this passage as it pertains to your life, marriage, family, and work?
4. In light of what you've learned today, what do you need to do to obey God?

## Other questions specific to this passage:

1. In two or three sentences, describe the moment when the Good Shepherd placed you on His shoulders and brought you into His fold. (Luke 15:3-7)
2. Where do you go or what do you do to find peace in the midst of trial and difficulty?

## Assign next week's passage – Psalm 32 *[Ask someone to tell the story next week.]*

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## PSALMS: Week 3 – Leadership Coaching

*The purpose of this page is to help you sharpen your skills as a Grow Group leader. Each week, we will include concepts, challenges, and resources designed to assist you as you lead and shepherd your Grow Group and grow as a disciple yourself.*

### **Leading** *[learn to facilitate your group more effectively]*

As you lead, be careful about what you say and how you say it. How you say something can forever taint what you say. Work hard to avoid pairing a wonderful truth from Scripture with a nauseous delivery or a bitter attitude. We cannot talk about being gracious while not showing grace or being thankful while sounding ungrateful. Remember to use “I” statements and not universal terms.

### **Shepherding** *[know the sheep, feed the sheep, lead the sheep, protect the sheep]*

Discipleship is a lifestyle, not something we turn on and off one time a week when we sit in a circle during Grow Group. Discipleship can happen anytime and anywhere. It requires that we share our personal experiences and what we are learning from God ourselves. It also requires that we not do all the talking and are careful to listen to those we are discipling. Remember to rely on the Holy Spirit to guide your steps in this process and to focus on doing your part.

### **Developing** *[grow as a disciple yourself]*

Last week we talked about making time spent in God’s Word a priority.

Here are a few tips on how to read the Bible:

1. Read the Bible humbly. Without knowing it, we can read the Bible with biases, always looking for how it relates to a particular topic, passion, or area of our life. Remember to be open to what God is telling you in that moment. His Word is living and active.
2. Read the Bible diligently. God invites us to approach Him with a child-like faith. We do not need to miss the surface truths in scripture. But, there are deep truths embedded in the cultural contexts, authorial intent and communicated in particular words and phrases. When we take the time to dig deeper into God’s Word, we can find the truths even more amazing, which leads us to see God in a fresh light.
3. Read the Bible relationally. The Bible was written by God for us. The Bible was intended to communicate God’s heart to the world. It has truth for how we should live. It nourishes and gives us life. It is through the Bible that we come to know our Father, our Savior, our Creator, our Rock, and our Refuge!