

Psalm 23-Thriving in the imperfections...

July 12th, 2020 by Kasey Crawford

Today's Passages: Psalm 23, John 10:10-12

David is _____. We get weary because our world wears us out. How you respond to it is life-changing.

This psalm is about who Jesus is for us. Jesus claimed to be the good shepherd. **"I am the good shepherd."** John 10:10

The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. 23:1

Jesus is my shepherd, so I have everything I _____...

Why is that true? That's what this Psalm is about. And the answer is at the very end...***"and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever."*** 23:6

Dwelling in the house of the Lord is about being in His presence! "The Lord is my shepherd, so I have everything I need because...he is with me and I am with Him"

Learning to _____ is about learning to dwell with Him.

He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,³ he refreshes my soul. 23:2-3

God wants you to rest; with Him and let His presence refresh you.

He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. 23:3-4

darkest valley = "very deep shadow".

Sometimes we are in the deep valleys because we've _____ there on our own and we need the Lord to rescue us with his staff from the dangerous place we've gone.

Fear no evil because the good shepherd brought a weapon (the rod) to beat away predators.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 23:5

So much of live is spent striving or running; but The Good shepherd says: "come _____" so He can serve You!

When you receive from the good shepherd, your cup can overflow in the midst of your enemies.

How is it actually possible to thrive in the midst of challenges?

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. 23:6

The good shepherd says you can thrive in the midst of life's challenges and imperfections because he is following you each day with goodness and love so that you can be with Him.

Thriving _____ happen when you are dwelling in His presence!

Responding to God...

"The Lord is my shepherd, so I have everything I need..."
How is that true for you?

Do you have permission to rest in green pastures with Jesus in order to be restored? Do you sit down at the table he prepares for YOU? What does that look like?

Answers: weary, need, thrive, wandered, sit down, will