



Prayer Nuggets – Psalm 23:1,2

Jesus, Our Shepherd

Preparation Nugget: Prayer should always be based on what God says. I love the Psalms because the psalmist identifies the problem and then speaks out loud how God will turn the circumstances to his favor. It’s a beautiful picture of prayer. We don’t deny the problems exist, we just deny that they have a right to rule over us. Then, we pray and declare what God says about the situation.

Meditation on the Word: *Faith begins where the will of God is known. Before praying, prepare yourself. Allow faith to rise up in your spirit as you meditate on the Word of God.*

“The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.”² He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. Psalm 23:1,2

Nugget of Truth: When we make Jesus the Lord of our life, or give Him the place as our Shepherd, we can be assured that He will provide us with the tools for an abundant life.

We all have heard the 23rd Psalm quoted at countless funerals. To many people it is known as the funeral Psalm. However, it is much more than that; it is a psalm that describes the abundant life that God gives us.

Jesus said in John 10:10 “the thief comes to steal, kill, and destroy, but I have come that you might have life and life MORE ABUNDANTLY.”

Psalm 23 gives us some insight into the MORE ABUNDANT life that Jesus speaks of. It starts by telling us that when the Lord is our shepherd we do not lack for any good thing. Sheep are completely dependant on the shepherd for provision, guidance and protection. Jesus is called

the Good Shepherd,¹ the Great Shepherd², and the Chief Shepherd³. What a way to start!

When we learn to rest in the confidence of His ability to provide, guide, and protect we have peace. When sheep lie down in green pastures, it is fresh, new, tender grass. It is the best food. Animals don’t lie down in grass until they are totally satisfied; full and confident that they are safe. This is a beautiful picture of how God wants us to live our lives.

He also leads us. In this reference, it means to guide to a watering place to refresh and rest. Still or quiet waters are a symbol of peace and rest. When you are going through a difficult time, turn to God. Allow Him to lead you into a refreshing place of peace and rest by keeping your focus on His Word and promise to you to have an abundant life in Him.

Think about this, Jesus provides us with an abundant life that includes provision, guidance and protection. This is important to know because when lack comes in any area of our life,

WORD STUDY

Want Strong’s #2637 Chacer

Definition

To lack, be without, to diminish or decrease, be lacking, have a need

Lead Strong's #5095 Nahal

Definition

To lead, give rest, lead with care, guide to a watering place or station, cause to rest, bring to a station or place of rest, guide, refresh, to refresh (with food), to journey by stations or stages.

¹ John 10:1

² Hebrews 13:20

³ 1Peter 5:4

we have scripture to build our faith and believe God to bring us through to abundant life, a life of more than enough!