



# PSALM 23

## FOR THE NEW YEAR

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**Psalm 23** is a psalm of guidance. We all are like sheep in need of a shepherd, and we have that Shepherd in the Lord our God. While we may not always get what we want in life, we can trust God to give us what we need, including is guidance. Let's look at **three kinds of guidance** God offers in this psalm.

### **Guidance toward *spiritual prosperity***

- The psalm speaks of *green pastures* and *still waters*, but these things are not our real solution. What are some ways people look for *green pastures* and *still waters* apart from God?
- How can even *paths of righteousness* be a stumbling block away from God?
- How does Isaiah 40:10-11 inform our understanding of God? How does John 10:14-15 further expand this?
- Discuss: “*Where you are right now is exactly where God wants you to be.*” How does Philippians 4:4-9 apply here?

### **Guidance away from spiritual adversity**

- What's the difference between *physical* adversity and *spiritual* adversity?
  
- What's truly the worse thing that could happen to you? How does Daniel 3:8-18 inform your answer?
  
- What *physical* adversity have you faced in the past year? How has God guided you away from *spiritual* adversity in this time?

### **Guidance into an endless future**

- How can our life of eternity with God help us to live better in this world today?
  
- Discuss: "*Eternal life starts in this life.*" How does John 10:27-28 apply here?