Psalms of the King Psalm 23

Psalm 23 - A PSALM OF DAVID

1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

3 He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, 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 goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Talk: The Lord's My Shepherd

Intro: We are sheep and we need this Psalm

David: Shepherd boy to shepherd King

We need this shepherd

In our abundance (vv.1-3)

...he is the true source

...he secures for us the true path

In our deepest fears (v.4)

The shepherd beside

For our eternal good (vv.5-6)

Shepherd you home

Here is our shepherd! (John 10)

Shepherding to death (John 10)

Shepherded for life

False shepherds

Stubborn sheep

Returning to the shepherd

Living for the shepherd

For discussion and application

- 1) What false shepherds do you find yourself following too easily?
- 2) What doubts do you have about the good shepherd Jesus? How does this Psalm speak to those doubts?
- 3) Is there an area of your life where you know you've been stubbornly resisting God's lead? Please pray with someone about this and 'return' to the good shepherd's ways.