



MESSAGE NOTES

“Resting in God’s Provision and Leadership”

Psalm 23:1-4

Loyd Flaherty

Psalm 23:1-4

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 He refreshes my soul. 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.

1. God as Our Shepherd (v. 1)

Psalm 23:1 “The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.”

Just as a shepherd cares for sheep, God cares for us, providing what we truly need. Even if life feels uncertain, God is watching over us and guiding us, so we don’t have to worry.

2. Rest and Restoration (v. 2-3)

Psalm 23:2 He makes me lie down in [green pastures](#), he leads me beside [quiet waters](#),
Psalm 23:3 He refreshes my soul...

Life can sometimes feel stressful and exhausting, but God gives us rest like sheep in green pastures beside quiet waters. The Lord refreshes our souls, in the midst of life’s busyness.

3. Guidance Through Difficult Times (v.3-4)

Psalm 23:3 ... He guides me along the [right paths](#) for his name’s sake. 4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,^[a] I will fear no evil, for [you are with me](#); your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

The “right paths” remind us that God leads us not just toward what’s easy, but what’s right. Even in dark moments—the “valley of the shadow of death”—we’re not abandoned.

Closing thoughts and application:

- Spending time resting in God’s presence and trusting Him to lead you brings peace and rest that will refresh and guide you toward the next step on the right path.
- Before you go to sleep, take a moment to thank God for everything you’re grateful for, especially the good things that happened that day.