



## **Covenant Group Discussion Questions**

### **Psalm 23: Faith in the Darkness**

#### **Icebreaker**

**Option 1:** Share about a person you know who has exhibited extraordinary faith.

**Option 2:** Where were you when you last felt afraid of the dark?

#### **Read Psalm 23**

#### **Invite God's Presence**

Pray a simple prayer. Consider employing the arts for reflection either now or after the discussion.\*

#### **General Discussion Questions**

1. This is one of the most famous psalms of all. Why do think that is?
2. This psalm begins, "The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing." (v.1) Of course, we all (literally) lack many things in this life! In light of that, what does this verse mean to you?
3. Share about a recent time when you experienced the Lord's "refreshment" of soul, a time when you sensed him "leading you beside quiet waters" (v.2).
4. The Lord leads us in "paths of righteousness." (v.3) This can also be translated as "the right paths," and they lead through both green meadows and dark valleys. Why do you think our good shepherd would lead us through dark valleys?
5. Share about a time when you found yourself in a dark valley but also felt very aware of the Lord's presence. How can you experience this more often?
6. God "prepares a table" (v.5) for us when we are in stressful situations. How can you enjoy this feast?
7. David did not have the privilege of knowing Jesus Christ who said, "I am the good shepherd." Read John 10:7-30 and discuss other insights you receive into Jesus' shepherding of his people. How are these relevant for your life?
8. How can the insights of this psalm help you right now to encourage someone else in your life?

#### **Sermon Questions**

1. In the sermon, Dave talked about how God leads us through dark valleys, which are often unpleasant and places we feel like we'd rather not go. What are some dark valleys you've seen your family walk through? How did God demonstrate His faithfulness to you?
2. How have you seen God lead you through dark valleys in the past? How did that time in your life affect you and shape you into who you are today?
3. Think about your small group for a minute. Where do you believe Jesus is leading you as a small group? How can we, together, encourage each other to follow Him more faithfully?

#### **Group Prayer & Reflection**

Confess areas where you have not recently trusted God to be your shepherd. Recommit your way to him!