

PSALMS

Family Devotional (6/7/20)

Key Point: Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

Today, we want our kids to learn that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, leads us and guides us towards the path of righteousness, and promises His comfort & presence in our darkest of days.

What we want the kids to know and do:

- Jesus is a good shepherd who personally cares for his sheep.
- Without a shepherd, sinners, just like the sheep, would self-destruct.
- God's children are sheep under Jesus' care. He watches over, guides, protects, and comforts them.

Text for Study: Psalm 23 (23:1-3, 6)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 He makes me lie down in green pastures.
 He leads me beside still waters.
 He restores my soul.
 He leads me in paths of righteousness
 for his name's sake.
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
 all the days of my life,
 and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
 forever.

Create discipleship time: As a family, listen to the sermon, read through the elementary portion above, and talk about God's Word.

1. What is a shepherd? Was this job seen as important?
 Shepherds are people who personally take care of and watch over sheep. No; Shepherds were not seen as important to society. They were often not trusted in the community.
2. The Lord is very trustworthy and important. Why would David call the Lord a shepherd?
 Because the Lord personally cares for His "sheep." The Lord not only guarded Israel, but He personally led, protected, and comforted David himself.
3. **Read John 10:14.** Who is the good shepherd in this passage?
 Jesus.
4. David says that because the Lord is his shepherd, he "shall not want." What does that mean?
 It means we don't need anything else in life other than Jesus as our Shepherd. All David wants is to be cared for and watched over by Jesus.
5. Are sheep smart? Can they care for themselves?
 No; Sheep are not smart. If they didn't have a shepherd, they would do things, eat things, and wander places that were bad for them. They don't have any way to defend themselves, so they needed a protector.
6. **Read Mark 6:34.** Who are the sheep without a shepherd?
 Sinners. They are in desperate need of someone to save them from themselves and their destructive choices.

7. Besides David, who are the sheep in this Psalm?
God's children. As their Shepherd, Jesus watches over, guides, protects, and comforts God's children.
8. Where do the sheep (God's children) get to live forever (v. 6)?
They get to dwell (live) in the house of the Lord. They get to be with King Jesus in His kingdom--safe and secure--experiencing his goodness and mercy forever.

****Additional passages for family study:** John 10.

Capture discipleship moments: Recap by asking your kids what they learned.

1. What did we learn about God today?
Jesus is a Good Shepherd.
2. What did we learn about ourselves today?
All sinners need a shepherd and we can find one by loving and trusting in Jesus.

Pray together as a family. Ask each member of your family – parents included – to share one thing they would like prayer over. Assign someone to pray for that person's request. Challenge them to pray for that person all week long. Parents, pray a blessing over your children as you close.

This Month's Memory Verse

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! **Psalms 34:8**