



“The Song That Everybody Knows”

Psalm 23:1-6

Sermon series: “Summer in the Psalms”

Guest speaker: Dr. George Kenworthy

Sunday, July 17, 2016

I. The LORD is my shepherd; **I will not want.**

- a. He makes me lie down in green pastures
- b. He leads me beside quiet waters
- c. He restores my soul
- d. He guides me in the paths of righteousness

II. The LORD is my shepherd; **I will not fear.**

- a. Your rod and staff comfort me
- b. You prepare a table before me in the presence
of my enemies
- c. You anoint my head with oil
- d. My cup overflows

III. The LORD is my shepherd; **I will dwell** in the house of the Lord forever.

- a. Goodness and mercy follow me
- b. All the days of my life

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How do we experience the presence of the Shepherd if we can't see it?

1. Ask for it.

Exodus 33:14-18

¹⁴ The LORD replied, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." ¹⁵ Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶ How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?"

¹⁷ And the LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name." ¹⁸ Then Moses said, "Now show me your glory."

2. When life feels futile, when it is out of control, when what you face is unjust, when death hangs like a shadow over you, fear the Lord.

In Ecclesiastes 12:9-14, Solomon seems to say you can make sense out of life when you realize we often have no answers for many of life's deep questions. We often are in the dark. Our only hope then is to learn to find joy despite the apparent futility of life. We find meaning in darkness then as we (1) choose to be happy despite our pain, (2) seek wisdom that will help make life easier, and (3) fear God!

- Audio and video recordings of this message and an outline (with answers) will be posted to the Grace website later today at **www.atgrace.com/sermons**. Order CDs in the Grace Café.
- A list of songs played during the contemporary service (along with iTunes links for each) can be found at **www.atgrace.com/songlist**.