

TRUST

How Do You Spell Trust?

AUGUST 6 & 7, 2011 • ALBERT TATE

Psalm 23:

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.

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

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.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Psalm 23 NIV

Notes:



TWIN LAKES
CHURCH
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Daily Meditations

Monday

Please read Psalm 23:1. Read this verse through six times, each time emphasizing a different word:

The **LORD** – The same Yahweh who is the hero of the Bible is my Shepherd!

IS my shepherd – Not “will be” or “used to be”, but He is my shepherd *now*.

Is **MY** shepherd – He is not just a concept; He is my personal Savior and Shepherd.

I have **EVERYTHING** I need – God will take care of me; I can be content!

I have everything I **NEED** – Not all I *want*, perhaps, but all my *needs*!

Which of these emphases is most meaningful to you today? Why?

Thank God today for His loving, shepherd-like care for you! Ask God to give you the desire to follow Him and allow Him to lead you.

Tuesday

Please read Psalm 23:1–3. Has God ever had to “make you lie down”? What happened?

How has God led you beside quiet waters?

In what area of your life do you feel like you need to be restored? How can trusting God help you restore you?

Thank God today for the rest He provides and restoration He wants to give you. Talk to Him about the area of your life where you need restoration. Ask Him to give you a willingness to trust His rest and restoration.

Wednesday

Please read Psalm 23:4 & 40:1–5. What types of valley are you going through right now or have gone through recently?

What can you learn about trusting God in the valleys?

Remember, one characteristic of valleys is that they are temporary! What principles in Psalm 40 can you apply to your own life?

What does God do for the psalmist after his valley experience?

Psalm 40 speaks of the wonders of God. Thank God today for at least 5 of His wonders. Talk to God about the valley you're going through and ask Him to give you confidence in the truth that God will comfort you and guide you.

Thursday

Please read Psalm 23:5–6. What is your cup overflowing with? Anger? Lust? Hope? Blessings? All of the above?

How has God's love filled the “cup” of your life to overflowing?

What do these verses tell you about the ultimate destiny of your life?

How does that give you hope?

How does that help you trust God?

Thank God today for His overflowing mercy and love. Thank Him that your future is ultimately secure in Him. Pray that you'll find hope for life's valleys in the truth about your future.

Friday

Please reread Psalm 23 again. What verse or phrase has meant the most to you as you've studied this chapter?

How has this encouraged you?

How has it helped you trust God more?

Thank God today for the opportunity to study the Bible. Thank Him for the psalms and the encouragement they provide. Ask God to help you grow in your trust of Him. Pray that your life will be a reflection of your confidence in God.

Saturday

Please read John 15:1–5 in preparation for this weekend's sermon. What does “abiding” mean in your relationship with God right now?

Thank God today for His presence with you. Please pray for this weekend's services. Pray that God will use Margaret Feinberg to encourage and challenge each one of us!



Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. *Psalm 23:6*