

# Sheepish (Life Lessons from Psalm 23): HOPE

Wylie United Methodist Church  
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – February 26, 2012

## Psalm 23:1-6

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. 3 He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. 4 Yea, 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. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever. (NKJV)

Because the Lord is our Shepherd...

## I. WE ARE BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING

“Surely”

Lam 3:22-23

22 Because of the Lord's great love (mercies-KJV) we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. 23 They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

“follow me”

John 10:11

11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

1 John 3:16

16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

Because the Lord is our Shepherd...

## 2. WE ARE ALWAYS IN HIS PRESENCE AND UNDER HIS CARE

“... all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.”

Because the Lord is our Shepherd...

## 3. WE HAVE HOPE NO MATTER THE CIRCUMSTANCES

WHO JESUS IS:

- He is our Good Shepherd (v. 1)

WHAT JESUS DOES FOR US:

- He provides for all our needs (v. 1-2)
- He restores our soul (v. 3)
- He empowers us to holy living for His glory (v. 3)
- He provides strength to face whatever comes (v. 4)
- He provides comfort (v. 4)
- He provides power and protection (v. 5)

WHAT ARE THE RESULTS:

- We have hope (v. 6)

In Christ's presence we are never without hope.

Isa 40:11

[The Sovereign Lord] tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

## HOMEWORK

- Memorize verse 6 (write it out)
  - v. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.
- Start and add to a “goodness and mercy” list each day this week.