

Life Lessons for Sheep: Contentment

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – February 19, 2017

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

1. WE ARE LIKE SHEEP

“The Lord is my shepherd.”

Isaiah said...

“We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;” (Isa 53:6)

Jesus said...

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” (John 10:11)

“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me...” (John 10:14)

SHEEP ARE BY NATURE:

- Weak
- Helpless
- Defenseless
- Dependent
- Dumb

2. THE LORD IS A PERSONAL SHEPHERD DEDICATED TO EVERY SHEEP

“The Lord is MY SHEPHERD”

Jesus told a story about the kind of shepherd he is in Luke 15).

“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’”

Jesus told Peter that if he loved Him he would...

“Feed my sheep”. (John 21)

3. SURRENDERING TO THE SHEPHERD’S CARE LEADS TO CONTENTMENT

“The Lord is my shepherd, I SHALL NOT WANT.”

Matt 11:28

[Jesus said] “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

Contentment doesn’t come naturally to us...

It comes from abiding in Jesus.

HOMEWORK:

• **Memorize verse one.**

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.”

- Write it out on a piece of paper.
- Say it at least once a day.

• **Count your blessings.**

- Write one thing each day this week that you're thankful for.
- Be content in your blessings!