



Psalm 23

I AM the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays
down his life for the sheep. John 10:11



Shepherd • Lamb Relationship

³... He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴Even 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.

Psalm 23:3b-4



- 1 Enduring Your Calling
- 2 Completing Your Race
- 3 Maintaining the Shepherd •
Lamb Relationship

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:27-28



The Shepherd Leads The Lamb Follows

³... *He* leads me in paths of righteousness [in right paths] for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death [the valley of deep darkness], I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalms 23:3b-4



Application Principles

- *Gethsemane Principle*
- *Progression Principle*
- *Decisive Principle*
- *24/7/365 Principle*

Psalm 23:1-6



Gethsemane Principle

Jesus did not enter prayer to negotiate with the Father about the Cross, but to be strengthened by the Father to endure the Cross.

Matthew 26:37-39



Progression Principle

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.

³He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

⁴Even 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.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

*Immediate – Impossible –
Inspired*



Decisive Principle

“I”

- *Shall not want*
- *Walk through*
- *Will fear no evil*
- *Shall dwell*

“He”

- *Makes me lie down*
- *Leads me besides still waters*
- *Restores my soul*
- *Leads me in paths of righteousness*

Philippians 2:12-13



24/7/365 Principle

- *Encounter God and Embrace Our Challenges* (v. 1)
- *Enter God's Rest • Renewal • Restoration* (vv. 2-3a)
- *Endure Our Calling and Complete Our Race* (vv. 3b-4)
- *Establish Our Hope* (vv. 5-6a)
- *Enjoy God Constantly* (v. 6b)

Psalm 23:1-6



24/7/365
Principle

- *Encounter God and Embrace Our Challenges*
- *Enter God's Rest-Renewal-Restoration*
- ***Endure Our Calling and Complete Our Race*** (vv. 3b-4)
- *Establish Our Hope*
- *Enjoy God Constantly*

Psalm 23:1-6



- 1 Enduring Your Calling
- 2 Completing Your Race
- 3 Maintaining the Shepherd • Lamb Relationship

³... *He* leads me in paths of righteousness [in right paths] for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death [the valley of deep darkness], I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:3b-4



Endure Your Calling
Complete Your Race
Valleys of Deepest Darkness

³ ... The Shepherd leads His lambs in right paths / right decisions / right plans / right purposes

⁴ ... The Lamb follows (enduring • persevering) the Shepherd even through paths of deepest and most devastating darkness

Psalm 23:3b-4



Endure Your Calling
Complete Your Race
Valleys of Deepest Darkness

⁶ For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.

⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. 2 Timothy 4:6-8



- 1 Enduring Your Calling
- 2 Completing Your Race
- 3 Maintaining the Shepherd • Lamb Relationship

(Jesus said,)

*I glorified you
on earth,
having
accomplished
the work that
you gave me
to do.*

John 17:4



Endure Your Calling
Complete Your Race
Valleys of Deepest Darkness

17 Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls,

18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.

19 GOD, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places. To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments.

Habakkuk 3:17-19



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28 I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:27-28



Endure Your Calling
Complete Your Race
Valleys of Deepest Darkness

²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:29-30

¹³ “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

Matthew 7:13-14



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- 3 Maintaining the Shepherd •
Lamb Relationship

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Psalms 23:3b-4



- 1 Enduring Your Calling
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Lamb Relationship

And he blessed Joseph and said, "The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day,

Genesis 48:15



- 1 Enduring Your Calling
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Psalm 23:3b-4



- 1 Enduring Your Calling
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*To the Congregation
Be strong and
courageous. Do
not fear or be in
dread of them,
for it is the LORD
your God who
goes with you. He
will not leave you
or forsake you.”*

Deuteronomy 31:6



- 1 Enduring Your Calling
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To Joshua

⁷Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land that the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it.

⁸ It is the LORD who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."

Deuteronomy 31:7-8



- 1 Enduring Your Calling
- 2 Completing Your Race
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Lamb Relationship

24 Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy,

24 to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen. Jude 1:24-25