



Image by
Supercoloring

Spend a little time studying this picture, colour it in if you would like to, making it as muted or vibrant as you wish.

The life and work of the shepherd three thousand years ago was tough and dangerous. In 1 Samuel the young shepherd, David, spoke of how he would deal with lions and bears. The 23rd Psalm does not just depict how David would like things to be, he affirms, he knows a generous and tender God who is with him always.

What do those pastoral images in the 23rd Psalm mean for you today?
Jesus promises life 'in all its fulness' that means its sorrows as well as joys.
Each day do you remember to hold all your worries and cares up to God?
Then can you, as David did, share with at least one other person that Jesus is your Lord and shepherd and you will dwell in his house forever?

Read the text below. Is God speaking to you through the words and the picture?

BIBLE READING: Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his
name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no
evil: for thou art with me;
thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

PRAYER:

Dear God, thank you that you are our good Shepherd in whom we can trust. Thank you for guiding us, for leading and carrying us throughout our life. You give us your peace and restore our souls, remember and care for us at all times even when we forget you. In you all our hope is founded, today and in all our tomorrows. Thank you for feeding us and protecting us that we may lay down in those green pastures without fear, knowing you are with us and that your love and goodness will travel with us all the days of our lives. Thank you Lord, for your faithfulness to us, that you are our refuge where we will find rest and peace. We give you thanks and praise you that, through your Son Jesus Christ, we may dwell in your house forever. Amen.

YOUR NOTES:

We hope that you have enjoyed this exercise. Perhaps you could keep them to help with your discipleship. Please feel free to forward it to others. A new picture should go up each week and can be found on The Five Parishes website under Bible in Pictures.

If you would like to speak to someone from the church please do call:

..... on this number