



Rock Point Church

Bill Bush | 5.31.26

Big Idea: Worship is trusting the Shepherd, not just thanking the Savior.

Psalm 23 (NLT)

¹ The Lord is my shepherd;
I have all that I need.

² He lets me rest in green meadows;
he leads me beside peaceful streams.

³ He renews my strength.
He guides me along right paths,
bringing honor to his name.

⁴ Even when I walk
through the darkest valley,
I will not be afraid,
for you are close beside me.

Your rod and your staff
protect and comfort me.

⁵ You prepare a feast for me
in the presence of my enemies.
You honor me by anointing my head with oil.
My cup overflows with blessings.

⁶ Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me
all the days of my life,

and I will live in the house of the Lord
forever.

How to worship in trust:

- **Trust the Shepherd with our needs.**
 - What to do:
 - Worship when you start to worry.
 - Prayer instead of panic.
 - Surrender instead of striving.
 - Trust when you want to control.

- **Trust the Shepherd in our valleys.**
 - What to do:
 - Stop interpreting pain as abandonment.
 - Stop assuming silence means absence.
 - Stop demanding immediate explanations.
 - Remember, God always gives presence before answers.

- **Trust the Shepherd with our future.**

Worship retrains us to recognize goodness we once overlooked.

GROUPS QUESTIONS:

1. What stood out to you most in this week's message, and why?
2. Read Psalm 23:1–3. What are some of the competing voices in our modern culture that try to drown out the Shepherd's voice and lead us instead?
3. When you feel anxiety or the urge to control a situation rising up, what is the specific "job" you are usually trying to take over from God?
4. Why is it so difficult for us to see rest as a relational habit built on a relationship with God rather than just a physical break or a change in our circumstances?
5. Read Psalm 23:4. How have you seen a season of pain or a dark valley transform your relationship with God from generic information about Him into personal intimacy with Him?
6. How can we practically guard our hearts against the assumption that God's silence means absence or that our pain means abandonment when we can't see a clear way out of a difficult season?
7. When you look back at your past—even the failures, pressures, or valleys—how can you see God's goodness and unfailing love chasing you down in ways you might have overlooked at the time?
8. How does the reality that the Shepherd died for the sheep under the new covenant change the way you answer the daily call to surrender leadership of your life to Him?