

CONFIRMATION WORSHIP NOTES

Name: _____

Date: _____

What is something you think your life is lacking?

How would life be different if you could say "I lack nothing"?

What song from our worship time was your favorite?

How would you describe the season of Lent?

Confirmation Sermon Notes

Sermon Series: Even though...

Sermon Title:

Text: Psalm 23

Write down the Next Step for this week:

Study Guide

Complete the phrase: "The Lord is _____"

Where does your language for completing that phrase come from?

How have the psalms been helpful to you in your journey of faith?

What would you say is the most recognizable psalm? Why?

Read Psalm 23 aloud.

Which image from Psalm 23 is most memorable to you?

How do you distinguish between wants and needs?

What is the difference between translations of Ps. 23:1 "the Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want" and "The Lord is my shepherd, I have all that I need"?

Which translation is easier for you to understand?

Look up Exodus 15:12; the same word is used in Ps. 23:2 to say that God "leads" his people. In your own words, where does God lead his people according to Ps. 23:2?

Ps. 23:3 uses the phrase "paths of righteousness" which literally means "paths along which one does not lose one's way."

How does this literal translation help you understand "righteousness by grace, through faith"?

What are some ways "the valley of the shadow of death" could be understood?

How are death and evil connected?

What reason does the psalmist give for not fearing evil?

A shepherd's rod was used as a weapon to fight off threats. A shepherd's staff was used for support walking in rugged terrain.

Which image connects most with the Lord's leading in your life? Why?

Psalm 23:5 has three powerful images; a table being prepared in front of enemies, anointing with oil, and a cup overflowing. Which of these images do you gravitate towards? Why?

In verse 6, the word "surely" carries the nuance of exclusivity; it is the goodness and love of God that *exclusively* follows you instead of your enemies. How does this bring peace in your life, or increase your trust in God?

The word in verse 6 that gets translated as "follow" in English comes from the Hebrew word "pursue" ... so it can read "following in pursuit" - thinking of God's goodness and love in this way, how does your reception of Psalm 23 change?

What other Scripture passages communicate the same truth of the Lord being our Shepherd "following in pursuit"?

Is the word "forever" in the context of verse 6 a comfort to you? Why or why not?

Why do you think the 23rd Psalm is the most recognizable psalm?

Next Steps: Memorize Psalm 23. Recite it out loud each day this week.

Next Week's Scripture: Psalm 130