



Don't Confuse a Cowboy with a Shepherd

- What is something that stuck out to you from last Sunday's teaching?
- Circle Time: In his teaching on Sunday, Pastor Dave listed out some of the differences between a cowboy and a shepherd. What were some of the differences he mentioned? Or, what are some of the difference he may not have mentioned?
 - Is there anyone in your life that you would consider to be shepherd like to you? Why?
 - Is there anyone in your life that you would consider to be cowboy like to you? Why?
- Read Psalm 23
 - One of the most fruitful metaphors for kingship in the ancient world was the king as shepherd. Using verses from this passage, why do you think that was the case?
 - In v. 2 the writer proclaims that he "lacks nothing" and uses the rest of vs.2-3 to back up that claim. List the things the author points to in attempting to describe the phrase "lacks nothing".
 - What things would you point to today to prove God's providence in your life?
 - Describe what the term "lacks nothing" means? Do you think that author actually lacks nothing? Why or why not?
 - What is so comforting about the staff and the rod?
 - What shape is a shepherds staff or crook? Why do you think it is in that shape? *To hook and pull sheep back when they go astray.*
 - The word for rod in this passage is the same as the word for club. What are clubs traditionally used for? When would the shepherd need a club? *To protect the sheep from predators*
 - How have you seen our heavenly shepherd use the staff and rod?
 - What do you think is so profound about the idea that the King prepares a table for the psalmist in presence of his enemies?
 - What do you think it means that Gods goodness and love will follow after you? How do you know?
- This passage is very often quoted at funerals. Why do you think that is?
- How does it help you to understand God as a shepherd?