

- I rely on God's provision

"...in the house..."

"Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in Me. There is more than enough room in My Father's home... When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with Me where I am." John 14:1-3 NLT

"So don't worry about these things, saying, 'What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?' These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your Heavenly Father already knows all your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you everything you need." Matthew 6:31-33 NLT

- I rely on God's power

"...of the Lord..."

"By His divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know Him, the One who called us to Himself by means of His marvelous glory and excellence. And because of His glory and excellence, He has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share His divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires." 2 Peter 1:3-4 NLT

- I rely on God's promise

"...forever."

"I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, 'Look, God's home is now among His people! He will live with them, and they will be His people. God Himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.' And the one sitting on the throne said, 'Look, I am making everything new!' And then He said to me, 'Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.'" Revelation 21:3-5 NLT

NEXT WEEK

HOPE FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD

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LIVING IN THE GOODNESS OF GOD

MARK HADLEY >>> NOVEMBER 25, 2018

LIVING ABOVE HOPELESSNESS

"...and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

Psalms 23:6b ESV

HOW I LIVE IN GOD'S GOODNESS, ABOVE HOPELESSNESS

- I rely on God's presence

"...and I shall dwell..."

"Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory. We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because He has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His love."

Romans 5:1-5 NLT

"I pray that they will all be one, just as You and I are one—as You are in Me, Father, and I am in You. And may they be in Us so that the world will believe You sent Me. I have given them the glory You gave Me, so they may be one as We are one. I am in them and You are in Me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that You sent Me and that You love them as much as You love Me."

John 17:21-23 NLT



This Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message. Join one of our message-based Community Groups to do this study together. Visit the Groups table after service to find a group!

LESSON AIM: The aim of this lesson is to live in God's goodness, above hopelessness.

BELONG in God's family:

CHECK IN: (optional) Let's briefly share with each other how we've been doing this week.

OPENING PRAYER

ICEBREAKER: We've been learning about sheep and shepherds. If you could be any animal for a day, which animal would you be? Why?

BECOME like Jesus:

1. On Sunday, we wrapped up our study of Psalm 23, living above hopelessness. How has this series changed the way you relate to Jesus?
2. Read Psalm 23:6. How many Christians actually feel this way about their life? We have a natural tendency to fear, worry, and ask "why?" Now read the entire Psalm. What in it demonstrates that God understands that life is often hard?
3. Thinking back on this series, how does your relationship with Jesus resemble that of a sheep to his shepherd? Why do you think Jesus used this analogy? What does following the Good Shepherd require from us? How does counting yourself a member of Jesus' flock change your perspective?

4. Read John 10:1-11 and 27-29. We need a shepherd. We need guidance throughout our life. We are helpless and vulnerable without one. If a person won't follow Jesus, who else or what else might they follow as their shepherd? How much damage can a bad shepherd do? How do we recognize our shepherd's voice?
5. Psalm 23:6 tells us that we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Read these descriptions of Heaven in the book of Revelation - 7:15-17; 21:9-10; 21:23-25; 22:2-5. What do you find encouraging about these verses?

BLESS others:

On the cross, Jesus extended astonishing grace to a condemned criminal. He opened the doors of relationship and external life to him. Read Luke 23:39-43. What are practical ways that we can bless others around us with overwhelming grace?

BUILD God's kingdom:

Read John 21:15-17. Here, Jesus tells Peter three times to feed his sheep. How would Jesus expect the church to apply this today? How should these verses impact our mission?

BELIEVE God and act in faith:

Read Isaiah 53:6 and then 1 John 5:12-13 and John 14:2-3. Jesus loves us so much that He willingly suffered and died for us to bring us into a life-giving relationship with Himself. How can we live out our gratitude for this?

PRAYER: What is a challenge you are facing this week? How can we pray and support you?

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