

These questions are provided for your further study and application of the message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others.

Discussion Questions

Date: January 7, 2017

Genesis 48:15-16, Psalm 23

1. David and Jacob spoke of God as Shepherd. Why was this image close to David's and Jacob's hearts? What are some descriptive terms of God that are especially meaningful to you?
2. The Lord meets our needs. In Psalm 23 those needs are primarily food, water, and shelter. How do we sometimes get our wants and our needs confused and how does that confusion affect our view of God?
3. The shepherd used his rod to drive away predators and his staff with a crook in it to direct his sheep. How might each of these tools serve as a reminder of God's comfort in your life?
4. Why doesn't the Psalmist fear evil? Read 2 Timothy 1:7 and Luke 10:10-18. Why shouldn't we fear?
5. The Psalmist has great confidence that goodness and mercy will follow him. From where does he get this confidence? How has your history with the Lord given you confidence to trust him?
6. In Psalm 24, the very next Psalm, David speaks of the Lord as the King of Glory. How do these two titles, Shepherd and King, speak of the different characteristics of God and how do each of these characteristics affect your worship of God?
7. Family verse: Read and memorize Psalm 23:1. Talk about the blessing of having the Lord as your Shepherd.