

Day 4

Goodness

Silence (2 minutes) Take some time to be quiet, to calm down, and to listen. What has God been teaching you? What are the next steps He wants you to take? How is your spirit doing?

Scripture *"The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely Your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever."* Psalms 23

Discussion The 23rd Psalm has been cherished by followers of Jesus for centuries. Many have memorized it so that the tenderness, care, protection, and love of our Shepherd is frequently brought to mind by the Holy Spirit. The last verse confidently states that God's goodness will follow us all the days of our lives. Throughout the psalm God's goodness already follows us; God repeatedly demonstrates His goodness. Our Shepherd provides all that we need. He leads and refreshes us. He guides us, protects us from evil, corrects and comforts us. He is more than generous with us as He cares for our walk with Him. God's goodness is demonstrated not only in how He provides for us, but in what He provides for us: guidance in the right path. Without God, we would be hopelessly lost with no way to be in communion with the Living God, but because of His goodness He sent His son to die in our place. Not only did God save us, He takes special care as we seek to develop and mature in our Christian walk. God's goodness truly touches us in every area of our lives.

Application Consider how God's goodness has taught you these past few weeks about the fruit of the Spirit. As Christians, we know that God has given us His Holy Spirit to guide us and walk with us and aid us as we seek to emulate Christ's character. Take time this week to meditate on God's goodness in your life as He aids you in growing in the Fruits of the Spirit. Thank Him that for His goodness that not only saves us but guides us as we seek to be good just as our Father in heaven is good!

Prayer Jesus, I praise You that You are the Good Shepherd, my Good Shepherd. Thank You for Your daily care for me. Thank You for refreshing me with Your presence. Thank You for correcting me for my sin and foolishness. Thank You for protecting me from the evil one. I praise You that You are generous. Thank You that You bless me with Your goodness and that I will be with You forever. Amen.

Silence (2 minutes) Talk to God about what you are learning. What are your fears? Where are your hangups? Pray for direction.

Scripture memory for the week:

"The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely Your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever." Psalms 23

