



**WEEK
42
PRAYER**

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

— PSALM 23:1-3 (ESV)

THE PRAYER

Lord, we are so thankful You are our shepherd. As we enter 2021, we feel a keen need to experience Your shepherding hand. Only You can lead us through the complex challenges and perils this new year will bring. Yet, even greater than the problems we are already facing are the promises we are claiming for 2021. Today we stand on the ancient promise of Psalm 23:1 declaring *I shall not want*. We are grateful for the natural breakthroughs in medical science and the supernatural mitigation of COVID-19. Without your direct intervention, the loss of life around the world would have been far greater.

Heavenly Father, in the name of Your Son, Jesus, we boldly come before Your throne with one voice, crying out: deliver us from COVID-19 and uproot this virus from this world. Strengthen, protect, and refresh scientists, medical professionals, and first responders as they battle this pandemic.

The mental and emotional toll of this pandemic has been widespread. Lord, help us to find true rest in the green pastures of Your Word and Spirit. You have the power to restore us from the fear and despair ravaging our souls. We realize this restoration does not come only through our individual time in Your presence and Word, but it is corporate in nature as well. Those of us who have the opportunity to worship in person during this time are very thankful, but those who can at least experience worship online are grateful, too. We all, however, desperately long for the day when we can freely fellowship with our brothers and sisters face to face!

Lord, we come before You with one voice, alongside millions of other believers. We ask You to restore our souls and make us whole. Lead us, Lord, in paths of bold witness and Spirit-empowered evangelism. Restore the broken souls of our nations and communities through a fresh outpouring of Your Holy Spirit. Please sweep millions of precious ones into Your Kingdom. As we feed in the green pastures of Your Word, give us the fresh strength we need to embrace Your will fully. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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