

KINGDOM

“Psalm 23”

Series Objective:

Students will learn:

- The story of God making a covenant with David
- The story of David’s sin.
- Psalm 23
- Solomon’s Wisdom in Proverbs

Series Theme Verse: “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.” – Psalm 23:6

Lesson Objective: For students to understand that David wrote many Psalms and they illustrate his relationship with God.

Lesson Passage: Psalm 23

Materials Needed: Bibles, Copies of the sheep for each student, tape, markers, Series Theme Verse on notecards by words

Lesson Plan:

Before you start: Give each student a copy of the sheep in the lesson. Have them cut the sheep out and write their full name on the sheep. Have them keep the sheep with them for the lesson.

Talking Points: Psalm 23

- Who wrote Psalm 23? (King David)
- What does David call the Lord? (His Shepherd)
- What does a Shepherd do? (Takes care of sheep)
- So what is David saying he is? (One of God’s sheep that God cares for)
- What does David lack? (Nothing)
- Why? (Because God cares for him and provides for him)
- What does David mean by “green pastures”? (God provides food)
- What does David mean by “still waters”? (God provides water)
- Together, “green pastures” and “still waters” are safe places.
- Where does the Lord guide David? (Along right or safe paths)
- When David walks through the darkest valleys, is he scared? (No)
- Why? (Because God is with him)
- Even when enemies are around, is David afraid? (No)
- Why? (Because God provides for him even in the face of enemies)
- What does David know God will provide for him? (Goodness and love)
- Where will be David’s final residence? (The house of the Lord)

The Story Retold:

- Return to the sheep that the students cut out earlier and wrote their names on.
- Explain that David knew all about sheep because he was a shepherd as a boy.
- Read 1 Samuel 17:34-36 and explain that this is David speaking to King Saul when he is a boy and wants to fight Goliath.
- Ask students why sheep need a shepherd? (Various answers, but help students see that sheep are defenseless and need a protector and provider. If sheep go into fast moving water to drink, their wool gets soaked and they will be swept away. They cannot fight lions. Etc.)
- David knew how to defend and protect sheep and he knew that he needed the same protection from his Lord.
- Have students look at the sheep with their name on it, explain to them that we are like David. We are like sheep and need a protector, which is God.
- Have students tape their sheep to the wall creating a herd of sheep and as each one tapes it up, have them say, “God’s goodness and love follow me.”

The Story and Me:

- Have the Series theme verse written by words on notecards.
- Give students the notecards (or hide them and let them find them) and have them put the verse together using the cards.
- Explain to students that our Series Theme Verse is part of the Psalm we studied today. Psalms are one way that people worshiped and spoke with God. David wrote many of the Psalms, but he is not the only one who wrote Psalms. We can do the same thing by writing down our prayers or writing songs to God.
- Have the students say the verse several times, helping them learn the verse.

