

XXXIX

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Leader Conversation Guide – XXXIX: Psalms

Main Idea

Psalm 23 is one of the most well-known and beloved passages in Scripture. Not just because it's poetic, but because it's personal. In only six verses, David paints a beautiful picture of God, reminding us He is near, attentive, and fully capable of meeting every need we have. As our Shepherd, God provides for us, restores us, leads us, protects us, and walks with us through every season. This week's message reminded us that we lack nothing when the Lord is our Shepherd. Peace, purpose, provision, protection... all of it, is found in the love of the Father! Each name of God revealed in Psalm 23 speaks to His unchanging character and His desire to care for His people. As we begin our discussion, let's open our hearts to the Shepherd who knows us, loves us, and invites us to trust Him more in every area of our lives.

The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want.
PSLAM 23:1

This week's message highlighted eight names of God found in Psalm 23—each revealing something about His character and care for us as our Shepherd:

Jehovah-Raah – The Lord is my Shepherd

- Psalm 23:1; John 10:14 - God knows us, leads us, and invites us into a relationship where we are fully known and deeply loved.

Jehovah-Jireh – The Lord is my Provider

- Psalm 23:1; Philippians 4:19 - With God as our Shepherd, we lack nothing. He meets every need—physical, emotional, and spiritual.

Jehovah-Shalom – The Lord is my Peace

- Psalm 23:2; John 14:27 - God leads us into rest and stillness. His peace calms our anxious hearts and gives us security.

Jehovah-Rapha – The Lord is my Healer

- Psalm 23:3; 1 Peter 2:24-25 - He restores our souls and heals our wounds—both seen and unseen.

Jehovah-Tsidkenu – The Lord is my Righteousness

- Psalm 23:3; 1 Peter 1:14-15 - God leads us in the right path, calling us to holiness and aligning our lives with His purpose.

Jehovah-Shammah – The Lord is Present

- Psalm 23:4; Hebrews 13:5-6 - Even in the darkest valleys, we are not alone. God is with us and will never leave us.

Jehovah-Nissi – The Lord is my Defender

- Psalm 23:5; 2 Thessalonians 3:3 - He protects us from the enemy and fights our battles, even in the presence of opposition.

Jehovah-M'kaddesh – The Lord is my Sanctifier

- Psalm 23:5; 1 Peter 2:9 - God sets us apart for His purpose, anointing us with His Spirit and calling us into a holy identity.

Talk About It

- Psalm 23 reveals eight names of God, each showing us something about His character. Which of these names stands out most to you right now, and why?
- In what ways have you experienced God's provision, peace, or presence during a difficult season? How did that shape your trust in Him?
- David confidently says, "I shall not want." What holds us back from living with that same confidence today? How can understanding who God is change our perspective on what we need?

**God answers prayer based on
who He is, not on who we are.**

Prayer

Father, thank You for being our Shepherd. Faithful, present, and more than enough for every need we face. As we go from this conversation, help us to rest in who You are. Remind us that You are our peace, our provider, our protector, and our healer. Teach us to trust You more deeply and walk in the confidence that comes from knowing You. May Your goodness and mercy follow us in every season. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Next Steps

Reflect on God's Names This Week

- Choose one of the names of God from Psalm 23 each day and spend time in prayer or journaling about how that aspect of His character is relevant to your life right now.

Pray with Confidence

- During the 21 Days of Prayer, approach God not based on your performance, but on who He is. Trust that He hears and responds because of His nature, not your perfection.

Memorize Psalm 23

- Commit all six verses of Psalm 23 to memory. Let God's Word renew your mind and remind you daily that He is your Shepherd.