

Discussion Notes

Psalm 23 - Houses, verse 6

July 2, 2017

Image Psalm

- Shepherd / Green pasture, still water / Death valley / Table (sit, bow, drink) / House

23.6 Surely goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.

Location, location, location

- “All theology is rooted in geography.” –Eugene Peterson
 - Genesis and the seventh day of rest
 - Moses understands the importance of God’s presence (Exodus 33)
 - Isaiah’s Servant, “a light to the nations opening the eyes of the blind” (Isaiah 42)
 - Gospels: Matthew calls Jesus Emmanuel, “God with us”, John says he “tabernacled” amongst us.
 - Jesus himself, sending the Helper, Advocate, the One Alongside (John 14. 15-17)
- God is very interested in location because he’s very interested in us.

It’s about presence

- The whole of Psalm 23 is about presence
 - The shepherd is amongst, smells like the sheep
 - The shepherd leads the sheep and provides
 - The shepherd protects the sheep
 - The shepherd blesses when we sit, bow, drink
- The reason Psalm 23 is so powerful is that it sums up the whole story of scripture from Genesis to Jesus and beyond
- David, knowing God’s character, exclaims, *“Surely goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life...”*
- This God is in pursuit, he says “I will live here, with you”

Saying yes to the Good Shepherd

- We have a choice to be shepherded or not, to live in God’s house or try to live elsewhere. God has said, is still saying, “I will live in your house forever...”, what will we say? We will we live with him?

Discussion Questions

- What has your experience of Psalm 23 been as we've walked through it together?
- What did this past week's teaching say to you?
- How will you take Psalm 23 and use it going forward in your life? What will you take away from our time in it?