

August 21, 2022  
*The Bridge Bible Fellowship*  
Pastor Paul S. Brown  
Psalm 23:1

**“Knowing Jesus Christ and Making Him Known”**

1. The Proclamation: “The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.” (Ps. 23:1 – NASB95)

**So What?**

## Discussion & Application:

1. Matthew 9:36 says about Jesus as He was ministering to the crowds, “**Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed** (troubled, harassed, bothered, afflicted) **and dispirited** (thrown away, cast down) **like sheep without a shepherd.**” Are those apt descriptions of people in our world today? What are some things people turn to when they don’t have a shepherd to lead them? Do you see people like that with compassion or with judgment?
2. Read **Ps. 22**. How do we know this Psalm prophetically speaks about Jesus? What does it tell us about Him and what He accomplished for us? What is the connection between Ps. 22, 23, and 24?
3. David uses the name “**LORD**” as bookends (an inclusio) in Ps. 23 (v. 1 & v. 6). This is a literary device to help the reader understand the main theme of what is written. Everything in the middle supports what is stated at the beginning and end. This Psalm is about the LORD (Yahweh). What is the significance of this name? What does it tell us about God? How do we know that Jesus is Yahweh?
4. What did David know about shepherds and sheep? What are some primary characteristics of **sheep**? Why would David identify himself (and each one of us) as a sheep?
5. Why do sheep need a **shepherd**? What are some primary characteristics and roles of a true shepherd? Why do you need a shepherd? How often do you need a shepherd?
6. Is Jesus **your shepherd** right now? Is there an abundance of evidence that you are following Him as LORD in every area of your life?
7. Is David saying that if you follow Jesus as LORD that He will give you everything that you **want**? If not, what is he saying in Ps. 23:1? How does that help you through the ups and downs of life?
8. Do you joyfully proclaim that the LORD is **YOUR** Shepherd? To yourself? To other believers? To unbelievers? If so, how do you do it? If not, why don’t you?
9. List 5 people you know who do not currently know Jesus as their Lord and Savior (Shepherd). Pray for them and plan a time to tell them that Jesus is your shepherd.
10. **Memorize Psalm 23**. Meditate upon it in the morning and evening every day this week. Especially focus on the peace that comes to us (even in dark valleys – Ps. 23:4) when we see Him as our shepherd every moment of the day.