



# The good shepherd – a week with Psalm 23

## THE SERIES AT A GLANCE

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7 days of 3 minutes

Experiencing that God takes care of me like a good shepherd

Preparation: 5 min

**How to use the series:** One devotion a day – ideal for a camp week, a holiday club or seven meetings. At the start, briefly recall the day before.

## 1 Part 1: God is my shepherd

**Bible:** Psalm 23:1

A shepherd looks after his sheep. He knows each sheep by name. The Bible says: "The Lord is my shepherd." God knows your name too! Each child says their name and everyone calls out: "God knows you!"

**Question:** What is your name – and who calls you by your name?

**Prayer:** Dear God, thank you for being my shepherd and knowing me. Amen.



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## 2 Part 2: Resting in green pastures

**Bible:** Psalm 23:2

The shepherd finds a green meadow for his sheep. There they can eat and rest. God gives us rest too. Lie down together, close your eyes and be quite still for a moment.

 **Question:** Where do you like resting most?

 **Prayer:** *Dear God, thank you for breaks and rest. Amen.*

## 3 Part 3: Fresh water

**Bible:** Psalm 23:2

Sheep get thirsty, especially when it is warm. The shepherd leads them to fresh water. God gives us what we need to live. Drink a sip of water together and say thank you.

 **Question:** What do you need every day to live?

 **Prayer:** *Dear God, thank you for fresh water and everything I need. Amen.*

## 4 Part 4: The shepherd shows the way

**Bible:** Psalm 23:3

The shepherd walks in front and the sheep follow. That way they do not get lost. God shows us the right way too. Play "Follow the shepherd": a leader walks in front and everyone copies what they do.

 **Question:** Who shows you the way when you do not know it?

 **Prayer:** *Dear God, show me the right way. Amen.*



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## 5 Part 5: No fear in the dark

**Bible:** Psalm 23:4

Sometimes the shepherd has to go through a dark valley with his sheep. But the sheep are not afraid, because the shepherd is with them. The Bible says: "I will not be afraid, for you are with me." We can say that too.

💬 **Question:** What helps you when you are afraid?

🙏 **Prayer:** *Dear God, when it is dark, you are with me. Thank you! Amen.*

## 6 Part 6: A table laid for us

**Bible:** Psalm 23:5

God is like a host who lays a beautiful table. He invites us and is happy when we come. Lay the table together for the next meal – with flowers or something beautiful from nature.

💬 **Question:** What do you like eating most together with others?

🙏 **Prayer:** *Dear God, thank you for giving us so many good things. Amen.*

## 7 Part 7: With God for ever

**Bible:** Psalm 23:6

At the end of Psalm 23 it says: "Goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life." God is not just with you this week, but every day. Tell each other what you experienced this week.

💬 **Question:** What was the best thing this week?

🙏 **Prayer:** *Dear God, thank you for being my good shepherd every day. Amen.*

## For leaders

- Keep it short: little children listen well for three to four minutes.
- Pass the object around – touching it helps understanding.