

GroupWork

Bible Study Discussion Starters

Life application materials for use in Life Groups, home devotions, and other small groups.

“Trust for the Journey Home” -- Another Gift of Easter

Psalm 23:1-3

1. Where have you seen God active in your life this week?

2. How has God spoken into your life this past week through your personal Bible study and devotion time? Ahha's? Challenges? Comfort?

3. **“The LORD is my shepherd.”** Pool your knowledge of animal husbandry when it comes to sheep and shepherds. What do you know of the 1.2 billion sheep on the earth and their need for a caretaker?
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4. The Middle Eastern shepherd still walks in front of his sheep and leads them to pasture or pen. Western shepherds drive their sheep from behind. One calls with his voice, one pushes with dog or staff or ATV. Which picture do you prefer as a sheep of the Good Shepherd and why?

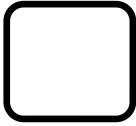
For what purposes (primarily) does the Middle Eastern shepherd use his/her staff?

5. **“He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake.”** Practical application from #4: Are you predominantly a “Ten Commandments” kind of Christian or an “Easter Sunday” kind of Christian?

True/False: Scripture’s guide for the Christian is that we are BOTH kinds at once. Explain your answer.

6. **“I lack nothing.”** What is the challenge in this statement of David? At what moment in your life will this statement most obviously be true?

7. That’s a wrap! Pray yourselves out in the Name of Jesus.



NoteSheet

Sermon Outline

Take notes during the sermon to help you remember the main points.

“Trust for the Journey Home” -- Another Gift of Easter Psalm 23:1-3

1. Easter Revealed Our Shepherd

A. We Have One

Are you OK with being a “S_____” ?

We are S_____ in the arms of the Shepherd

B. I Need One!

I need to hear his V_____

I need to know his G_____

APPLICATION Jesus the Good Shepherd provides a lesson in parenting...

2. Easter Inspires Our Hope

A. I Have All I Need In My Shepherd

That is a B_____ statement!

A leap of F_____ to let go of this world

B. I Have His Map to Bring Me Safely Home

“It is F_____!”

G_____ work is before me.

APPLICATION Jesus modeled that “the best is yet to come.”

CONCLUSION Easter is more than just a T-shirt. 😊

Next Steps

- **Read Genesis 49:1-33.** What did “Trust for the Journey Home” sound like in the life of Jacob (vv. 29-33)? How did Jacob’s blessings for his sons model a life lived with one’s eyes on our eternal home? Had Jacob always lived his life this way?
- **Ponder I Peter 1:23-2:3.** Faith in Jesus’ work on Good Friday to Easter Sunday is the “imperishable seed” of which Peter speaks. How does Easter “reframe” our lives and how we live them?
- **Visit** the culmination of Psalm 23 in Revelation 7:9-17. **Ad Dei gloriam!**