

1. Describe an event or a season in your life when you experienced great joy or peace. How has that experience shaped your expectations for your present or future?
2. Read Psalm 23:5. What kind of a table does the Good Shepherd set before us? Why is it significant that the table is prepared in the presence of our enemies?
3. What does it mean in an ancient context to be anointed with oil? In what ways does the Good Shepherd make our cup overflow? Why is it so easy to miss that reality?
4. Read Psalm 23:6. How does God pursue us with goodness and mercy in this life? What hope do we have for the next in this regard?
5. Why does David place such emphasis on dwelling in the house of the Lord? Why is dwelling in God's house such a hopeful prospect?
6. Ask yourself this question. Have I made the Lord *my* shepherd? If not, invite him to forgive your sins and to be the Lord of your life today! If he is already *your* shepherd, ask him to give you eyes to see the table set before you. Ask him to shape your desires according to his provision, and to learn how to rest in and enjoy what he has for you, even in the midst of the valleys.