

I. CHECK-IN

- Check in. How is everyone doing?
- Reflect on last week's challenge:

"Write down your entire story, the good and the bad, and how God has worked through you. Share this story with someone who may need to hear it."

II. PSALM 23

KJV: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

CEB: The Lord is my shepherd. I lack nothing. He lets me rest in grassy meadows; he leads me to restful waters; he keeps me alive. He guides me in proper paths for the sake of his good name. Even when I walk through the darkest valley. I fear no danger because you are with me. Your rod and your staff, they protect me. You set a table for me right in front of my enemies. You bathe my head in oil, my cup is so full it spills over! Yes, goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the Lord's house as long as I live.

III. DISCUSSION

- Reflect on the two translations of Psalm 23 above. How can the different translations be confusing? How can different translations be helpful? Which translation do you prefer and why?
- What are your experiences with reading the Bible? Have you ever struggled or been intimidated by scripture? Explain
- As a group try to map out the timeline/family tree that Pastor Fernie shared on the sermoncast.

IV. PRAYER

Spend some time sharing prayer requests with each other. As the small group leader, we ask that you do two things:

1. write them down
2. ask someone to pray

IV. CHALLENGE

This week, familiarize yourself with the Bible. What questions do you have? What doesn't make sense? Share with your small group next week.

- How much of the timeline/family tree did you already know? What did you find interesting?
- Compare the God that is depicted in the story of Noah's Ark to the one in John 3:16. Pastor Fernie challenges us to understand that it is the peoples understanding of who God is that changes and not God who changes. Do you find this to be true in your life?
- Pastor Fernie introduced us to Cataphatic (positive) and Anaphatic (negative) theology used to describe who God is. As a group write down a list of as many positive attributes of God as you can think of.