



Songs of Summer Psalm 23

We all have a song or two that when we hear it takes us back to those summer vibes. The lyrics and the melody take us back to the beach, the pool, the sunset, our friends, some of our best summer memories. Those songs have a special place in our memories. But there are also songs in Scripture that should take us back and remind us of who God is and what God has done. The Psalms are chocked full of songs of summer to listen to. This summer let's go back and listen to some of Scripture's best songs of summer.

Jesus is active in our lives as our shepherd, companion, and host.

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

Psalm 23

The Lord Is My Shepherd

A Psalm of David.

- 1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
- 3 He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
- 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
- 5 You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
- 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
forever.

- What do you think it means that David describes himself as a sheep in this Psalm?
- How does God's nature make him the ultimate shepherd?
- What does it mean that God led David to "green pastures" and "still waters"? What did this look like in David's life? Was his life always pleasant?
- Is it challenging for you to trust that God is bringing you to "green pastures" and to lie by "still waters"? Are there any times that you can recall God doing this for you in the past?
- Do you know the voice of your shepherd or how he has already taken care of you? Have you conflated or prioritized other sources of comfort with or above the comfort that God is offering you?
- What can you do to get to know the Shepherd better?

- What would it look like for God to restore your soul? Are there any ways that you are resistant to God shepherding for you?
- The Lord is pursuing you. Do you want to know Him more?
- Is the path that you are currently on the path of righteousness? Mark spoke about how we can often view it as “my world” instead of God’s world. How can we reorient ourselves to see the world as God’s instead of our own?
- Read John 10:1-11. Can you identify the thieves and robbers in your life that you are listening to and are getting in the way of your abundant life?
- What does this psalm teach us when it refers to God leading us both to green pastures and through the valley of the shadow of death? Recall when you have felt led through the valley of the shadow of death or felt like you were sitting at your enemies’ table. Did you feel afraid?
- How does this psalm help us when the news talks about our “uncertain times”?