

Finding Hope
Psalm 23:4

Dr. Matthew St. John
Bethel Church
May 31, 2015

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Notes:

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At Home Study Guide

For the week of May 31, 2015

Psalm 23:4

Quick Review: The suspense of Psalm 23:4 provides a beautiful place for David to affirm His complete trust and dependence on his heavenly Father. The valleys and shadows paint a colorful picture reminding the reader of life's dark moments. In David's day, the valley was the place where dry stream beds would quickly flash flood. The shadows provided shelter for lurking bandits and wild animals. The threat to the traveler was real. The fear was palpable. All of us experience the real or imagined shadows of fear, danger, and suffering. David points us to a place of utter dependence on our Heavenly Father who loves us and offers us relationship with Him where we can find peace, rest, and joy in the midst of life's trials.

Growing Deeper:

- What stood out to you most about the message on Sunday?
- Following the death of Moses, God commissioned Joshua to lead His people. The season was mixed with overwhelming responsibility and grief along with a deep trust in God. Summarize for yourself Joshua 1:1-9. How does this passage minister to the grieving?
- Sometimes we are surprised by suffering as followers of Jesus. How do Isaiah 43 and 1 Peter 3:8-22 help you understand the normative nature of suffering in the life of a Christian?
- According to 2 Corinthians 1:3-7, Jesus is the personification of comfort you and I have received when we chose to follow Him. What has he done for you that you can share with others?
- Consider memorizing Psalm 23:4 this week. Allow this verse to remind you of God's faithfulness.

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