

### WARM-UP

- If you could have anything in abundance, what would it be? Why?
- Tell us about your hobby. Why do you enjoy doing it?
- What is one thing you love about your house? Why?

**WORD** <sup>5</sup>*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.*  
<sup>6</sup>*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

**PSALM 23:5,6**

When we say that Jesus is our Shepherd, it means that He provides, cares for, and protects us. More so, we are assured of His presence in our lives, that He is with us for all our days (Psalm 23:4). As we look at our lives and situations through His perspective, we find that we don't need to be afraid or anxious. Under the Lordship and care of our Shepherd, He has promised us these three things.

## 1 | God abundantly provides for us even in the face of our enemies.

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.* **PSALM 23:5**

This verse is a testament of the overflowing blessing that God has for His people. God desires to bless us with all that we need and more. Even in the face of our enemies—whether these may be rivals, persecutors, spiritual enemies, opposition, or distress—God’s provision is sure. We can rely on our Shepherd, for He *richly provides us with everything to enjoy* (1 Timothy 6:17). Why does God bless us? (1 Timothy 6:18,19)

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## 2 | God’s goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our lives.

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life . . .* **PSALM 23:6**

God promises more than just meeting our needs every day; He even ensures that goodness, loving-kindness, and faithfulness will accompany us all our days. As we spend our lives under the care and Lordship of our Shepherd, pursuing and seeking Him alone, His favor and blessing will *come upon us* and *overtake us* (Deuteronomy 28:2). How has this been true in your life?

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### 3 | God gives us a place in His house forever.

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.* **PSALM 23:6**

God has promised us the greatest blessing we could ever receive—we can live with Him forever! And this is possible through Jesus Christ. He is preparing a place for us in His Father's house (John 14:2,3). His life, death, and resurrection made a way for us to be reconciled to God so we can be welcomed into His family. Dwelling in God's house forever is a gift that can be received by those who put their faith and trust in the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ. What does it mean for us to have a place in God's house and family?

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#### APPLICATION

- Have you put your faith in Jesus Christ and committed your life to serving Him? Pray with someone to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior starting today.
- How will your perspective about life change now that you know that God is your Shepherd who is always with you and provides for your every need?
- How can your life be a testimony of God's goodness and mercy to those around you? Commit to share the testimony of how God has welcomed you into His house to a close friend this week.

