



JIREH



RAPHA



NISSI



ROI



TSIDKENU

## GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### SERMON RECAP

One of the most beloved passages in the Bible is **Psalm 23**. These famous verses penned by David remind us of who God is and who we are in relation to Jehovah Roi (the Lord is my shepherd). In the message, Aaron McClary challenged us to go deeper in our relationship with the Lord and not just know about Him, but know Him personally. Aaron unpacked these verses and reminds us of the beautiful provision, protection, and comfort of Jehovah Roi.

### GET STARTED

- What's something that happened in your life that seemed insignificant at the time but turned into a great story?

### TAKE IT IN

- What encouraged and/or challenged you from the message this week? Why?

### TALK IT OVER

Read Psalm 23 out loud. Take turns reading it in different versions.

- Aaron pointed out that we can know about someone without truly knowing them personally. So, it's possible we can know about God because we've read about Him or know the Bible, but we don't know God personally. **How do you go from knowing ABOUT God, to knowing to truly knowing Him? Share your personal experiences with your group.**
- David dealt with some very difficult circumstances. David found the Lord to be a trustworthy shepherd who could provide, protect, and comfort. Some people (even Christians) turn to other sources of provision, protection, and comfort. **What are some examples that you've tried or seen others try? What was the result?**
- The very first verse of **Psalm 23** states, **"The LORD is my shepherd; I have all that I need."** People often only believe that to be partially true. They believe God provides in some

areas, but not all areas of life. **What area(s) of your life have you struggled to believe God will provide for your needs? How can you start trusting God in that area of your life today?**

- As we follow the Good Shepherd, He leads us to the place that is best for us. **How have you seen this in your own life? Have there been times you've resisted going in the direction the Good Shepherd is leading you? What was the outcome?**
- Verse 3 says, **“He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name.”** The reverse is that when we stray from God and take the wrong path, it brings dishonor to His name. If you have ever strayed from the right path, you know God is patient with us and guides us back. **If you are willing, share how the Good Shepherd has directed you back to the right path.**
- Verse 4 says clearly, **“Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.”** David knew that it’s not “if” but “when” we walk through the darkest valley. The right path goes through the dark valley. When we walk through the dark valley, it can be hard to see that the Good Shepherd is close. **How should we respond when we find ourselves in this valley?**

### **LIVE IT OUT**

This week, Aaron challenged us to write out **Psalm 23** and write out some reflective thoughts about what you read and meditate on. After writing it out Aaron suggested you sign your name under the verses stating that God is your Shepherd. Not a shepherd, not the shepherd, but your personal Shepherd whom you trust with your whole heart and life. Will you do that this week?

**Pray:** *“Lord, forgive me for not trusting you as I should. I have seen you as a shepherd and the shepherd, but not my personal Shepherd whom I know will provide, protect, and comfort me. I know you will never leave or forsake me. Thank you for loving me, my Good Shepherd! I trust in you and you alone! In Jesus’ Name, Amen!!”*

**MEMORIZE:** “The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need. He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name. Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me. You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will live in the house of the Lord forever.” Psalm 23 (NLT)