



MAIN SCRIPTURES: Psalm 23:5-6 SECONDARY: John 10:1-18 MAIN POINT: God is crazy about you and wants to be with you forever. JESUS CONNECTION: Jesus is our Good Shepherd and through faith in Him we have full life.

LEADER CORNER

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

For students to realize God not only loves them, He delights in them.

THINK ABOUT THIS

In this last time studying Psalm 23, give your students time to reflect on how they've grown through this study and how they can keep growing in their faith this summer. Summer is a huge opportunity for students to grow that often can get crowded out by other things – how can you continually encourage your students to grow closer to the God who is crazy about them this summer?

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This guide is a suggestion, not a formula. Adjust the questions and activities as needed, and don't feel like you need to do, or ask, everything you see here. Let the students and the Holy Spirit guide the conversation, too.

CONVERSATION GUIDE

GET THEM TALKING

What's the silliest thing you've ever said or done to impress someone you had a crush on?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. We do crazy things for people we like. Do you feel like you have to do things to earn God's love? Why or why not?
- 2. Flip the script: what crazy things has God done to show His love for you?

READ PSALM 23:1-6, paying special attention to verses 5-6, and answer the following questions:

- 3. In your own words, what does it mean that God prepares a feast for us?
- 4. What are some blessings God has given you? (Group Challenge 1: Come up with a list of over 15 different blessings God has given people in your group).
- 5. How has your understanding of God grown through studying Psalm 23?
- 6. How has your understanding of yourself and/or your life grown through studying Psalm 23?
- How can you continue to grow in your relationship with God throughout this upcoming summer? (Group Challenge 2: Come up with a list of over 15 different ways you can spend time with Jesus and grow in your faith this summer).

NEXT STEP

Encourage your students to pick at least one of the ideas off your list of ways to grow in faith they want to do this summer, write it down on a card with their phone number and prayer requests, and put it in the center of the group. Then encourage everyone to pick a card and pray for and text that person this summer.

PRAYER GUIDE

Ask your students to share their prayer requests and close your time together in prayer.

MAIN SCRIPTURES

Psalm 23 NLT

¹ The Lord is my Shepherd; I have all that I need.

² He lets me rest in green meadows; He leads me beside peaceful streams.

³ He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to His name.

⁴ 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.

⁵ 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.

⁶ 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.

BONUS LEADER RESOURCE

Dad Jokes: Summer Version

See how many you can get without looking at the answers. Share some laughs with your students \bigcirc

- (1) What did the beach say to the tide when it came in?
- (2) Where do sheep go on summer vacation?
- (3) Where do sharks go on summer vacation?
- (4) How do pirates get rid of their dad bods?
- (5) When do you go at red and stop at green?

With Answers:

- What did the beach say to the tide when it came in?
 A: Long time, no sea.
- (2) Where do sheep go on summer vacation?A: The Bagagaga hamas
- (3) Where do sharks go on summer vacation?A: Fin-land.
- (4) How do pirates get rid of their dad bods?A: By doing planks and shaking their booty.
- (5) When do you go at red and stop at green?A: When eating a watermelon