

Small Group Questions: The Value of Looking Back

Series: The Word at Work

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Read

Matthew 28:19-20; James 3:1; Psalms 23:1-6

Reflect

There is value in learning from those who have been there before us. David's words in Psalms 23 are proof of that as he looked back on his time during a seemingly insignificant role. If we allow him, God prepares us for the significant during the insignificant. The promises found throughout these verses (and throughout the entire Bible) can help us refocus on the world-maker and what he is doing now, rather than the world and the threat of what is to come. Do you feel like your work is just trudging around in a pasture? Because of David's words, we can take heart that our current work is not without purpose.

Pastor Adam Martin encourages us with 5 takeaways from Psalms 23: ***God is pursuing you, God is protecting you, God is providing for you, God is preparing you, and God is promoting you.*** Allow these truths to penetrate your heart as you go about your week and commit to where God is calling you.

1. What areas in your life (relationships, finances, workplace, etc) feel like they are lacking?
 - a. If God is the ultimate promise-keeper, what verses (outside of Psalms 23) can we lean on when we feel as though we are lacking?
2. What aspects of your life are you resistant to allowing God to lead you?
 - a. Who is leading you? Friends? Coworkers? Social Media? Politics?
 - b. What are some practical steps you can take to help surrender control over to God?
3. What valleys are you currently walking through?
 - a. Can you see the goodness of God in the midst of this valley?
 - i. How can your small group encourage you during this valley?
 - b. When in the past have you experienced a valley and now looking back, you can witness to God's faithfulness?
4. Blessings almost always follow obedience. In what areas of your life do you need to be obedient?
 - a. What fears are hindering you from being obedient?
 - b. Talk about a time where you experienced blessings due to your obedience to God's calling.

Respond: Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?