# GROWTH POINT

JERRY FERRSO | WEDNESDAY EVENING | JUNE 27, 2018

# Title: Essentials for Life's Journey

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. 3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. 4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. 5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever." (Psalm 23:1-6)

### INTRODUCTION

# **1. AN INTIMATE**

"The Lord is my shepherd;" (Psalm 23:1a)

"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep. 12 But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep. 13 The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep. 14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. 15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep." (John 10:11–15)

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant," (Hebrews 13:20) "For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls." (1 Peter 2:25)

## **2. AN INFINITE**

"I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters." (Psalm 23:1b-2)

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." (1 John 2:15-17)

### A.

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." (Matthew 11:29)

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." (Psalm 91:1)

### B.

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:" (1 Peter 2:2)

"Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food." (Job 23:12)

### C.

"Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: 14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." (John 4:13–14)

"O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee,my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is; To see thy power and thy glory," (Psalm 63:1-2)

# **3. AN INDIVIDUAL**

"He restoreth my soul:" (Psalm 23:3a)

### A. The shepherd will care for the \_\_\_\_\_\_ sheep.

"I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek thy servant; for I do not forget thy commandments." (Psalm 119:176)

"Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit." (Psalm 51:12)

# B. The shepherd will search for any \_\_\_\_\_\_ sheep.

"And he spake this parable unto them, saying, 4 What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? 5 And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing." (Luke 15:3–5)

## 4. AN IMPACTFUL

"...he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake." (Psalm 23:3b)

"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." (Proverbs 3:6)

"When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble." (Proverbs 4:12)

# **5. AN INSPIRING**

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." (Psalm 23:4)

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." (Isaiah 41:10)

# 6. AN INCREDIBLE

"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever." (Psalm 23:5-6)

"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:7)

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." 4 Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength: (Isaiah 26:3–4)

A. His goodness \_\_\_\_\_ our needs.

"O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him. 9 O fear the Lord, ye his saints: for there is no want to them that fear him." (Psalm 34:8–9)

B. His mercy \_\_\_\_\_ out our sins.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities;" (Psalm 103:1-3)

C. His salvation \_\_\_\_\_ our heavenly home.

### CONCLUSION

