

“THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD”

1. What self-help formulas were you raised with to cope with stress ("forget it", "pray about it", "sleep on it")?

2. Read aloud— Person A:1-3; B:4; C:5; D:6.

3. David now departs from the "rock" and "stronghold" images of God. From what part of his life does this psalm come (see 1Sa 16:10-12)?

4. What second image is used (vv.5-6)? What are the possible meanings of "anoint-ment" (see 1 Sa 16:13; Lk 7:46)?

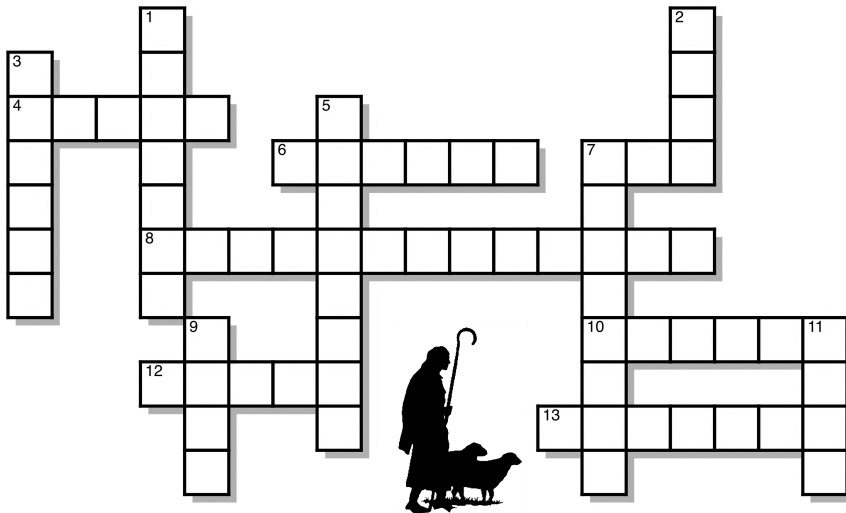
5. Read this psalm again in the negative ("The Lord is not my shepherd..."). What verse is most disturbing?

6. What dark valley do you walk now? Has God rescued or protected you with his "rod and staff"? What "green pastures and still waters" has he brought your way?

7. Who are your "enemies" today? How are we to look forward to their eventual defeat while at the same time having compassion on them and fulfilling Christ's call to "love our enemies"?

8. What would like your cup to overflow with?

9. What "walking sticks" (verses of support and encouragement) do you lean on and when? How have they helped you before? How might you grow your walking stick bin?



Down

- 1 What does God do for David’s soul?
- 2 What does David say he will not be afraid of?
- 3 What key preposition is used in conjunction with the valley of the shadow of death?
- 5 Where does God lead us to lay down?
- 7 What does David’s cup do?
- 9 What shall we never do when Yahweh is our Shepherd?
- 11 What key preposition does David use in regards to God’s position in his situation?

Across

- 4 What belonging to God does David look forward to abiding in forever?
- 6 What does David call quiet/still?
- 7 What is given for David’s head?
- 8 The paths God leads David on are the paths of _____.
- 10 Goodness and love will do this to David all the days of his life.
- 12 What is prepared before the enemies of David?
- 13 What do the rod and the staff of God bring to David?



WORD SEARCH:

- LORD
- Shepherd
- Pastures
- Rod
- Staff
- Valley
- Shadow
- Death
- Walk
- Enemies
- Anoint
- Head
- Cup
- Goodness
- Love
- Dwell
- Life
- Forever

K L J Q K D G X T X N R S
 Q Q I D K N N M P M G T B
 Q Y J F O T M U M R A Y S
 D L T D E R C Q H F D E S
 S E R U T S A P F T I H L
 D G O O D N E S S M A N B
 K R Y V P D R Z E D R E W
 T L E W A N D N O E D A D
 D N Y H Y L E W V X L M D
 W H I L P J L E L K M T D
 E E D O R E R E N O K T N
 L A T V N O H B Y Y R R Q
 L D R E F A T S R Q Z D T