

<b>Name</b>	EXAMPLE	<b>Age group / context</b>	High school youth group, ages 16-19
<b>Text</b>	Psalms 23	<b>Supplies/Handouts</b>	Psalms 23 (3 versions) handouts, OT text slips of paper (see LOOK), note paper, and pencils
<b>Date</b>		<b>Equipment Needed</b>	Computer/projector for YouTube clip

<b>Main Point (Step 9 sentence)</b>	Psalms 23 demonstrates that God is the trustworthy Good Shepherd, through God’s presence, protection, and provision, as exemplified by Moses in the OT (and Jesus in the NT).
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	As a result of this lesson, the learner will:
<b>Cognitive: Know</b>	God is the trustworthy Good Shepherd, through God’s presence, protection, and provision.
<b>Attitudinal: Feel</b>	Trust the Good Shepherd.
<b>Applicative: Do</b>	Identify one concern/fear to give to the Good Shepherd in prayer.

Time	Content
25	1) <b>Community</b> Refreshments while people gather; then do a “trust fall” exercise.
5	2) <b>Worship</b> Sing: Prov 3:5-6; The Steadfast Love of the Lord Never Ceases
	3) <b>Nurture</b>
4	<b>3a) HOOK</b> (Attention getter) How many have pet cats? We joke about herding cats. Can you herd them? [Share funny stories here!] Hey, that sounds something like this video! (Funny 50 second video on cat herding:) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_MaJDK3VNE">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_MaJDK3VNE</a>
1	<b>Transition statement:</b> This funny video of herding cats reminds me of a friend who grew up on a sheep ranch. When we talked about herding sheep, he said that sheep were so stupid, he would rather herd cats! So, perhaps we need to take another look at Psalm 23, because WE are the sheep in this metaphor! What does that say about us? What does that say about the shepherd?
10	<b>3b) BOOK</b> (Bible observation) Read Psalm 23 from the handout. Work in pairs and help each other: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compare two translations and share one meaningful difference.</li> <li>2. Identify the two primary settings and metaphors for YHWH.</li> <li>3. <u>Underline</u> what YHWH does.</li> <li>4. Put a dashed underline under the result in/for the psalmist.</li> </ol> If more time for quick pairs: Circle 2 <sup>nd</sup> person pronouns and Box 3 <sup>rd</sup> personal pronouns
10	<b>3c) LOOK</b> (Bible interpretation) In the OT, before Jesus Christ, the ancient Israelites had a different model for the Good Shepherd. This cross-referencing exercise will help us see another good shepherd. Each pair will have another OT text to find. Here’s a slip of paper with your text: Deuteronomy 2:7; Psalm 80:8-11; Exodus 15:13; Psalm 106:7-8; Jeremiah 2:6; Psalm 78:16-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read it and look for what is happening in this text. What does the “shepherd” do in this text?</li> <li>• Is there anything that connects to a bit of Psalm 23?</li> </ul> In the OT, before Jesus Christ, the ancient Israelites would have thought of Moses being a great shepherd. Moses led the people out of slavery in Egypt and through the wilderness for 40 years. [More here to recount the Exodus story if needed]. In these texts, where Moses was the guide, what did God provide in these texts? [food/spread a table, saved, guiding, etc.] Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the purpose of the rod and staff? Why two sticks? [rod = protection and staff = guidance]</li> <li>• If we are stupid sheep that go astray, what does that say about the shepherd? [loving, gracious, faithful, persistent]</li> <li>• What questions do you have?</li> </ul> Summarize in 3 or 5 words, what does a shepherd do? [Presence, Provision, Protection...] These OT texts help tell the story of God’s faithfulness as their shepherd out of slavery and through the wilderness. [More here to engage everyone and wrap in their comments.] These texts, along with Psalm 23, demonstrate that God is a trustworthy Good Shepherd.
	<b>3d) TOOK</b> (Application) Can you honestly say, “I shall not want?” such that you trust the Good Shepherd to provide? If not, what is hindering your trust in God? Write down one concern on this note paper, and put it in your Bible right at Psalm 23.
	Prayer: Let’s pray together for a faith that can deepen our trust in our Good Shepherd.
	<b>4) Service</b> In three weeks, the children’s summer Bible camp at church will start. I thought that our Bible study group could volunteer to be “shepherds” and help the children and parents find their classroom on the first day. So, who can join me in being a shepherd Monday morning, June 21? We will begin at 8:15 with prayer, learning the classroom layout, and then be available for the rush of kids and parents that will arrive between 8:30 and 9:00 am.

<b>Assignment for next session</b>	none
<b>Reading for next session</b>	none