



The God Who Protects

SUMMARY:

We are all searching for security. It is human nature to want to feel safe and secure. Often, we are prone to look for this protection in empty places: in our job title, relationship status, preferred political candidate, or bank account.

The good news is that our Good Shepherd, in His great mercy, is the God who protects. One of the gifts of this protection is that we do not have to live in fear. We do not have to fear the loss of our dream job, the diagnosis, the upcoming elections, or the bills that desperately need to be paid. Instead, we're invited to live in the reality that we are protected by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

There is nothing to fear when our victorious God has declared His love over us and granted us a seat at His table of grace. Lean into this truth and into the arms of the Good Shepherd.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Upward:

Read James 1:17-18. What does this passage tell us about the One who has the power to reconcile?

How does Psalm 23 describe God's protection of His sheep? What is the function of the "rod" and "staff"?

Inward:

What are some ways God has protected you in your life? Reflect and share.

Psalm 23 says the Good Shepherd prepares a table for us in front of our enemies. Who are our enemies? Read Ephesians 6:12. How does this verse inform how we treat people we may not get along with? How does this verse inform our response to "dark powers"?

Outward:

2 Corinthians 5:20 describes us as ambassadors for Christ. What do ambassadors do and how are we supposed to do that for Christ?

Kings send ambassadors all over the world. To which groups of people have you been sent as an ambassador?