

Story: **Psalm 23**

Background Scripture: **Psalm 23**

YOU WILL NEED: *No items needed.*

Psalm 23

SAY: As I read Psalm 23, when you hear the word “He,” I want you to stand up and turn in a circle. When you hear the word, “You,” clap your hands twice. Let’s practice.
(Practice a few times and then begin reading.)

Read Psalm 23

(Pause for the student’s actions after the emphasized words)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. **He** makes me lie down in green pastures, **he** leads me beside quiet waters, **he** restores my soul. **He** guides me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for **you** are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. **You** anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Ask the students: *Does anyone know who wrote Psalm 23?* (Answer: King David)

SAY: Did you notice a change in David’s attitude during that chapter? At first he talked about God as “He,” as if he was distant, but after David “walked through the valley of the shadow of death”—after he went through a tough time, he referred to God as “You.” Something changed in that valley. David learned how close God was to him and that he could trust Him to take care of him.