

Prayers based on Psalms 23:1-6

taken from <https://waymakers.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/PrayerwalkGuide.pdf>

What to Pray: For those without a Shepherd

Read Psalm 23 with particular people of this community in mind. Consider how Jesus Himself is at work in their lives, pursuing them and caring for them, like a shepherd would care for his own sheep. Pray for people that you see, or for those that you know are nearby the place you are praying. Let these verses help you express God's heart in your own words

1. Lead them to a time of renewal (vss 1-2).

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
He leads me beside quiet waters....

Pray for freedom from pressures which keep them on the run from God; that they would be weaned from the intoxication of being busy; that Jesus would break addictive habits that keep them filling themselves with hunger; for Christ to renew their appetite for things of God and fill their deepest thirst.

2. Lead them in the joy of right living (vs 3).

...He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake....

Pray that Christ would overhaul the interior of their lives, that they would be restored to see what is true and to value what is right; that they would be guided to make choices in accordance with God's design, to taste the joy of living rightly. Pray that Christ leads people into doing His justice and righteousness in a way that His renown will be great.

3. Lead them through fear and grief (vs 4).

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

Pray that Christ would manifest his presence to them as they navigate difficult days of fear or grief; that Christ's rod would be experienced as a great protection against evil powers; that Christ's staff would gently nudge them as a guiding force in times of terror or confusion; that they will be both confronted and comforted by Christ. Pray for the peace of Christ to lift the shadow of fear throughout the community.

4. Lead them to know and worship God (vs 6).

... Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever [literally "length of days"].

Pray that God's goodness will overshadow them, virtually herding them into renewed trust and intimacy with Him. Pray that Christ's love would be revealed, attracting them into a worshipping relationship with God.