



Purley Baptist Church
Life Group guide
Confidence in crises - Psalm 23

Tip for Leaders: Understandably, following government advice, some members may not be able to attend the usual Life Group gathering. This week presents the group with an opportunity to support and pray for one another and discuss the practical outworking's of living as Christians who can be confident in times of crisis. This week's UP/IN study is shorter than usual in order to give you time to reflect as a group how you can be involved in serving the wider community. Therefore, please give ample time to think and pray through the 'OUT' section.

This Week's BIG IDEA: The Lord is our shepherd who gives comfort, confidence and courage during a time of crisis.

CONNECT UP and IN: Fix your eyes on God and give him an opportunity to speak to you through his Word

- 1) Who was there on Sunday and listened to the sermon? Who is familiar with Psalm 23? How has this Psalm encouraged you in the past?
- 2) What might it mean for us today to live with Jesus (not Science) as our Good Shepherd? (v.1)

Leaders note: Science is a great thing. Science helps us to act cautiously and proportionality in a time of crisis. However, science isn't our Saviour.

- 3) How might verse 2 be an encouraging verse during times of stress and strain?
- 4) What kind of hope and strength for tomorrow does the Lord bring to those who follow him? Read Psalm 23:5- 6.
- 5) What picture comes to mind of a banquet table prepared for the sheep? Read Matthew 26:26-29. Does this picture give you hope and strength? If so, why?

CONNECT OUT as a group to serve the world around you

Spend extra time together this week looking at how God might be leading you to serve others

- 1) As a society our government is encouraging more 'social distancing'. In the coming months, how can you be growing in 'connectivity' as there is increasingly less physical proximity?
- 2) What can we be doing practically as a group to care for the most vulnerable in society?

- 3) Look at the pro-forma below that is being used by community groups to care for neighbours. How could you make use of something like this?

Tim would love to hear from you....

If as a group you've got a plan for how you are going to love and serve others (especially those in isolation) email your ideas to Tim.

HELLO! If you are self-isolating, I can help.

My name is
.....

I live locally at
.....

My phone number is
.....

If you are self-isolating due to COVID-19 I can help with:

<input type="checkbox"/> Picking up shopping	<input type="checkbox"/> Posting mail
<input type="checkbox"/> A friendly phone call	<input type="checkbox"/> Urgent supplies

Just call or text me and I'll do my best to help you (for free!)

Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.

#ViralKindness