

Enough. (5 of 7)
 “Passing Through Dark Valleys”
 Cornerstone Church of Poway
 Pastor Ed Turley
 November 10, 2019

Big Idea: We will never find what we really need until God is **enough**.

“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. **Psalm 23:1-4 (NIV)**

- **Dark valleys are UNAVOIDABLE.**
- **Dark valleys are UNPREDICTABLE.**
- **Dark valleys are IMPARTIAL.**
- **Dark valleys are TEMPORARY.**

How Do I Get Through The Valleys Of Life?

1. I Trust God Is _____ Through My Darkest Times

“**Even though** I walk through the valley of the **shadow of death**, I will fear no evil...” **Psalm 23:4a (NIV)**

“Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to **defend** ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is **able to save us** from it, and He will **rescue** us from your hand, O king. But **even if** he does not, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

Daniel 3:16-18 (NIV)

“In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” **1 Peter 1:6-7 (NKJV)**

Notes: _____

2. I Rely On _____ In The Valleys

“...for **you are with me**...” **Psalm 23:4b (NIV)**

“God is our **refuge** and **strength**, an **ever-present** help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. Selah **Psalm 46:1-3 (NIV)**

“What, then, shall we say in response to this? **If God is for us**, who can be against us? He who **did not spare** His own Son, but gave Him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? **It is God who justifies**. Who is He that condemns? **Christ Jesus**, who **died**--more than that, who was **raised** to life--is at the right hand of God and is also **interceding** for us. “Who shall **separate** us from the **love of Christ**? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?” **Romans 8:31-35 (NIV)**

“No, in all these things we are more than **conquerors** through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that **neither** death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, **will be able to separate us** from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 8:37-39 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

3. I Rely On God's _____ To Comfort Me “... your **rod** and your **staff**, they **comfort me**.” **Psalm 23:4c (NIV)**

But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear;
1 Samuel 17:34-36 (NIV)

"My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand." **John 10:29 (NKJV)**

“You are from God, little children, and have **overcome** them; because **greater** is He who is **in you** than He who is in the world.” **1 John 4:4 (NASB)**

Notes: _____

➤ **Will I trust God through my dark valleys?**

My next right step, I will:

- Trust God is in control through my darkest times
- Rely on God's presence in the valleys
- Rely on God's protection and guidance to comfort me
- Accept Jesus as my Lord and Savior



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Family Corner: [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Try this over dinner. Keep it to 12 minutes or less.]

Small Groups: [Choose as many questions that honors your group’s time commitment]

Big Idea: We will never find what we really need until God is **enough**.

Open in Prayer:

- What thoughts from this week’s message encouraged you to live a life for Jesus?

Icebreaker:

Share a dark valley that you have walked through.
 What helped you through it?

Read Psalm 23:1-4

What stands out to you about God being our Shepherd leader?

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How Do I Get Through The Valleys Of Life?

1. I Trust God Is In Control Through My Darkest Times

“**Even though** I walk through the valley of the **shadow of death**, I will fear no evil...” **Psalm 23:4a (NIV)**

Read Daniel 3:16-18

Why did they refuse to defend their position of not bowing down to the image?

What did they believe about God?

To what limit would you be willing to go to if you were in their position?

Read 1 Peter 1:6-7

What kind of various trials have you gone through?

Why does God allow us to go through these difficult times?

What has been the result of your “various trials” so far in your life?

How can you give praise to Jesus in your current situation?

2. I Rely On God's Presence In The Valleys
“...for you are with me...” Psalm 23:4b (NIV)

Read Psalm 46:1-3

What stands out to you from this verse?

Where do you go for comfort?

Read Romans 8:35-39

Have you ever felt like God doesn't love you?

Which one of these difficulties do you fear the most?

What do you learn about God's love for you from this passage?

3. I Rely On God's Protection And Guidance To Comfort Me
“... your rod and your staff, they comfort me.” Psalm 23:4c (NIV)

Read 1 Samuel 17:34-36

How did David use his rod?

How does God protect us?

Read John 10:29

What promise can you claim from this verse?

Read 1 John 4:4

What promise can you claim from this verse?

➤ **Will I trust God through my dark valleys?**

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.
