



# Next

## Part 2 – While Waiting Discussion Guide

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No one seems to know what is going to happen next. Life is out of our control and, for some people, this chaos produces anxiety. Where do you turn? What do you do? Let's go to **Psalm 23**. It is very, very familiar and that may be just what we need in times like these: the familiar Word of God.

### Jump Start

1. What do you wish you had the courage to do? What is stopping you from doing that thing?
2. Which one of the courageous attitudes do you most identify with during this season?
3. Read [Psalm 23:1-3](#), [John 10:27-30](#), [Psalm 91:1](#), and [Isaiah 53:6](#). According to the passage, how does a good shepherd lead his sheep? Are you trusting the care, provision, and protection of the Good Shepherd? Does that come easily to you or is it a struggle?
4. Read [Psalm 23:4-6](#), [Psalm 84:11](#), and [Jeremiah 23:3-4](#), [Romans 8:37-39](#). The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm mentions going into dark places with confidence. What are the main reasons for this confidence? Use the other passages for answers, also.
5. Memorize [Psalm 23](#) and record a video. Share on Facebook or Instagram using the Hashtag **#Psalm23TheCoveChurch**. This is not to boast or to be arrogant, but to encourage others to join in and learn this Scripture with you. The concept of "meditating" on the Word of God is mentioned over twenty times in Scripture.

### ***Biblical Tips To help you memorize Scripture:***

- Use [ScriptureTyper](#), the Bible Memory App, to help you memorize (this week, [Psalm 23](#)).
- Write it down - We retain 70% of what we write down ([Psalm 1:1-2](#)).
- Carry it with you- make note cards, or sticky notes post them where you can read daily ([Joshua 1:8](#)).
- Say It out loud - Say it loud when you are alone, or to a spouse, a friend, or even your children ([Isaiah 55:11](#)).
- Have accountability - Choose someone in your Life Group to be your accountability partner ([1 Thessalonians 5:11](#)).
- Live it out – We retain 90% of what we say, write, and do ([John 13:17](#)).

### **Current Prayer Focus**

What we're praying for together as a church:

- For the pain people are feeling due to loss. For Cove families experiencing death and grief.
- Peace in place of anxiety.
- Provision for people; finances and ability to go back to work. Pray for the millions laid off.

**Deeper**

*Leader: This section is designed for further use in your Life Group or for personal study.  
These can also be used as discussion points and ways to stay connected with  
your group throughout the week.*

**We will look deeper into two of the Courageous Attitudes from this week's message**

**6. Read [John 10:3-5, 7-18](#).**

- a. What does Jesus call the one who does not use the door to enter the sheepfold? What kind of person is Jesus describing?
- b. Who is the one who enters through the door of the sheepfold? What are the characteristics of the one who enters through the door?
- c. Why is it important for the sheep to know the voice of the shepherd? What can happen when the sheep do not recognize the voice of the shepherd?

**7. Read [Acts 1:6-11](#).**

- a. What is the Lord's great plan?
- b. What are some ways in which our own views of the Kingdom might be too narrow? How will you intentionally move outside of your narrow view of God's Kingdom and get involved in God's redemptive plan to bring salvation to all nations?
- c. What is the primary mission of the church? What are some ways that we get distracted from that mission? Is it possible for good things to get in the way of our central mission? How can you cultivate this in your own life, in your family, small group, church?