

Week 8 – Study Guide

Our Name this Week:

Jehovah Ra'a - The Lord is My Shepherd
Nurturer, Provider, Protector, Guide, Companion

A pause...sometimes we really need one. Sometimes we need to take a moment—STOP—take a deep breath. We need to know God as Jehovah Ra'a, The Lord our Shepherd. The One who nurtures, provides, protects, guides and comes alongside us. Let's spend today just reflecting on several Scriptures related to our need for the Lord as our Good Shepherd.

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned —every one —to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. —**Isaiah 53:6**

“For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. —**Ezekiel 34:11-12**

When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. —**Mark 6:34**

So Jesus again said to them, “ Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. —**John 10:7**

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. —**John 10:11**

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. —**John 10:14-16**

Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. —**Psalms 100:3**

But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise. —**Psalms 79:13**

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. —**Psalms 95:6-7**

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. —**Hebrews 13:20-21**

Let's spend a few moments reading and reflecting on Psalm 23 and what it teaches us about God as our Good Shepherd. **Read Psalm 23 and answer the questions on the following page.**

Psalm 23

A Psalm of David.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads 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 mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

forever.

What phrases speak of the Lord as our...

Nurturer?

Provider?

Guide?

Protector?

Companion?

"I shall be supplied with whatever I need; and, if I have not everything I desire, I may conclude it is either not fit for me or not good for me, or I shall have it in due time." —MATTHEW HENRY

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. —**John 10:10-11**

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. —**John 14:27**

Read the following Scriptures and notes some of the means the Good Shepherd uses to meet these basic spiritual needs in the lives of His sheep:

Nourishment and Refreshment (1 Peter 2:2; Jeremiah 15:16; Psalm 16:11)

Restoration (Revelation 3:19; Hebrews 12:12–13; Galatians 6:1)

Guidance (Psalm 119:105; Romans 8:14)

Protection (Psalm 119:11; Ephesians 6:10–18)

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. —**Hebrews 13:20–21**