

## Devotion 14: Go to Jesus, our Good Shepherd

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**Audience:** For Patient and Caregiver

**Theme:** Go to Jesus and learn from him!

**Bible Passage:** *Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light* (Matthew 11:28-30).

**Devotion:** Whenever we feel as though the Lord has abandoned us we should remember Jesus' role as our Good Shepherd. In both the Old and New Testaments our Savior is referred to as our Shepherd or the Shepherd of His flock. Of all the names Scripture gives to Him, this is one of the most comforting.

Scripture tells us: *He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the Lord his God. And they* (His flock of believers) *will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace* (Micah 5:4,5). We have security and peace through Jesus, our Good Shepherd.

This same assurance from our Good Shepherd is given in the most familiar and truly comforting twenty-third Psalm. In verse 4 we read: *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* (the power of God's Word) *they comfort me.* King David trusted in the Lord's promises and so can we!

Jesus tells us: *I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep . . . I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep . . . my sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; and no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one* (John 10:11-30). We are safe, dear one, in the Good Shepherd's flock!

Our Good Shepherd watches over us to the end of our life and to the end of time itself. We read: *When the Chief Shepherd appears you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away* (1 Peter 5:4).

O God, the Father, we thank you for giving us to the Shepherd of our souls. Amen.

**Bible Readings:** Genesis 49:24; Psalm 80:1-3; Isaiah. 40:11; Revelation 7:17.