

## Welcome

If you could have one thing that you "really, really want" right now, what would it be?

## Worship

The theme for the next few weeks is based on Psalm 23

- Ask someone to read the Psalm then meditate for a few minutes.
- Which verse, phrase or word resonates most with you right now?
- Bring that to God in the form of a prayer either of supplication (asking God) or gratitude (thanking God)

## Word & Works

Tonight we are looking at the first phrase... **'The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want'**

- Why might people resist the idea of us being sheep who need a shepherd?
- Why is the image such a strong one even in this day and age?
- Have a look at some of the following scriptures that give background and context...  
Isaiah 53 v.6    Psalm 100 v.3    Matthew 9 v.36    Jeremiah 50 v.6    John 21 v.17
- What strikes you from these verses about the nature of sheep and the shepherd?

In the first verse of the Psalm David hits upon an issue that stops us "living life now" and that is discontentment!

- What are some of the ways we can become discontented? What feeds that?
- How does it show itself in our lives?
- What have you learned about contentment?

Consider this phrase....'what you have in God is greater than what you don't have in life'

- What does that mean for you right now?

Finish by asking if anyone needs prayer right now? Maybe for a greater sense of contentment?

Also pray for others you know who are living life without a shepherd....maybe you can invite them to Alpha starting September 21st or to this series every Sunday morning?

Pray as a group for the wider church right now, for the issues we face relating to the fire and pray we will follow our shepherd closer than we ever have before.....