THE SUNDAY COMPANION

The Shepherd Leads

"He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake." — Psalm 23:3

Sheep were not expected to find their own way. Their part was simple: stay near the shepherd and follow.

We often want God to show the whole road ahead, but the Shepherd rarely gives the map. He asks us to trust Him one step at a time.

1. Listen to His Voice

Jesus said His sheep follow because they know His voice (John 10:4). Many voices compete for our attention, but the sheep learn the voice of the Shepherd.

2. Trust His Path

David says the Shepherd leads in **"paths of righteousness."** These are right paths, though not always easy ones.

Psalm 23 moves from right paths to dark valleys. The path may be hard, but hardship does not mean the Shepherd has stopped leading.

I do not measure what is right by comfort,
but by whether I am following the Shepherd.

3. Trust His Name

David says He leads **"for his name's sake."** His character stands behind His leading.

Jesus said, **"I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep"** (John 10:11). The One who gave His life can be trusted with the road ahead.

For the Week Ahead

You may not see far down the road. You do not have to. Listen for His voice. Trust His path. Remember His name.

The sheep does not need the map. The sheep needs the Shepherd.

A Prayer

Lord, help me recognize Your voice and trust Your leading. When the path is hard, remind me that Your character stands behind every step. Give me faith to follow. Amen.