

CHAPTER SIX

“HE LEADS ME IN PATHS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR HIS NAME’S SAKE”

The single greatest safeguard the shepherd has in handling his flock is to **KEEP THEM ON THE MOVE!!**

Sheep must be kept _____ !

The shepherd has to carefully manage the sheep and the land in order for them to thrive and be healthy.

When sheep are on the move, they tend to want to go _____ .

- They don't want to follow.
- They don't want to be led.
- They prefer to go their own way – even though it may take them straight into trouble!

“We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way” Isaiah 53:6 (NIV)

“There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.” Prov 14:12

“There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.” Prov 16:25

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14: 6

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” John 10:10

Jesus says if anyone wants to follow Him *“he must _____ himself, take up his _____ and follow Me”* (Mark 8:34)

7 attitudes that must be ‘acquired’ in order for us to progress forward onto ‘new’ ground with God!

1. *Instead of loving myself most, I am willing to love Christ BEST, and others more than myself.*
2. *Instead of being one of the crowd, I am willing to be singled out, set apart.*
3. *Instead of insisting on my rights, I am willing to forgo them in favor of others.*
4. *Instead of being “boss”, I am willing to be at the bottom of the heap.*
5. *Instead of finding fault with life and always asking “Why?”, I am willing to accept every circumstance of life in an attitude of gratitude.*
6. *Instead of exercising and asserting my will, I am willing to learn to cooperate with His wishes and comply with His will.*
7. *Instead of choosing my own way, I am willing to choose to follow in Christ’s way.*

I should strive to simply do what He asks me to do; go where He tells me to go;
say what He instructs me to say;
act and react in manners He maintains is in my own best interest
as well as for His reputation (if I’m His follower)!

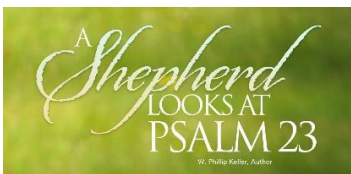


TABLE DISCUSSION:

1. Think about a time you followed someone on a path or down a road you weren't familiar with. Compare that experience with following our Shepherd.

What obstacles might exist that may make it difficult to 'follow' our Shepherd:

2. We know that we can count on God's help to walk in His paths of righteousness. Look up John 16:13, Galatians 6:1, James 1:5, and Hebrews 13:17.

What specific kinds of help are described in these verses?

John 16:13 _____

Galatians 6:1 _____

James 1:5 _____

Hebrews 13:17 _____

The 2 images of sheep on the paths should remind us of 2 things:

1. Keep your eyes on the _____.
2. Keep your eyes on the _____.

GPS answers five questions simultaneously:

1. "Where am I?"
2. "Where am I going?"
3. "Where are you?"
4. "What's the best way to get there?"
5. "When will I get there?"

**TODAY, did I listen to my Google GPS MORE THAN my spiritual GPS?
(GOD POSITIONING SYSTEM)**

***Lord, help me to strive to simply DO what YOU ask me to do;
GO where YOU tell me to go;
SAY what YOU instruct me to say;
ACT and REACT in manners YOU say are in my own best interest;
and REPRESENT YOU well - so others GIVE YOU GLORY!***

"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow "meme" John 10:27