

Satisfied – A Series from the 23rd Psalm The Table

God doesn't always eliminate our enemies or trials, but he does promise to be present with us in their midst. Furthermore, he plants a table smack-dab in the middle of it all and gives us everything we need to feast on his goodness and love. When the going gets tough in life, you've always got a seat at God's table.

Scripture:

You prepare a feast for me
in the presence of my enemies.
You honor me by anointing my head with oil.
My cup overflows with blessings.
Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me
all the days of my life,
and I will live in the house of the Lord
forever.
Psalm 23:5-6

"If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninetynine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders." Luke 15:4-5

For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs. Zephaniah 3:17

Ice Breaker and Intro Question:

- 1. Where is a place that you feel welcomed, peaceful, or at home?
- 2. What resonated with you from Sunday's service? (Sermon, scripture, song, etc.)

Discussion Questions

- 3. Read Psalm 23:5-6 quietly by yourself and take a moment to reflect on it. What images stand out to you? How would you describe the setting of these verses?
- 4. Read Luke 15:4-5 and Zephaniah 3:17 out loud. How do these verses describe God's posture and attitude? Matt shared in his message that God is only moving in one direction toward us. We are not visitors, showing up uninvited to God's table. God prepares for and pursues us. Does this match your image of God's posture toward you? Why or why not?
- 5. What do you make of the presence of enemies in the middle of this feast? (Psalm 23:5) Matt said, "this is a full and accurate depiction of what it means to have true peace and satisfaction in life through Jesus. It's not the elimination of difficulty, enemies, or trials. It's knowing you sit at the table of God even in the midst of it. We lack nothing at the table of God." How do you react to that? How have you experienced that in your life?
- 6. Close your group time by having someone read the whole Psalm 23 and spend some quiet time listening to it. After a few moments to reflect, share what you sense God saying to you through it. After everyone has a chance to share, close with a prayer.

Additional Resources:

- Take some time to reflect maybe in a journal or maybe with a friend.
 - List out some of the blessings that God has given to you.
 - o Draw a picture or write a description of the verses in your own words.
 - Take some time to read the whole of Psalm 23 and thank God for how he has used it in your life this month.
- This whole psalm is an invitation to be with God. Can you make some time this week to meet with Him?

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