



THE WIN

The group member will be challenged to grow in a deeper understanding of their faith in the Lord's presence, protection and provision in the midst of their darkest valleys.

SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In the message this week we learned that Believers are not immune from difficulty and danger but the Lord will provide His presence to protect us.

- What was your take-away from the message on Sunday?

WARM UP

Many of us have experienced something where we nearly died.

- What were the circumstances for your near death experience? What happened?

THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

The Text: Psalm 23

On Sunday, we were challenged to memorize the life-changing words of Psalm 23.

- Would anyone be willing to recite the passage from memory to us?

Psalm 23:4-5

“Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.”

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- What dark “**valley**” you are experiencing right now?
 - What has been your attitude toward your “**valley**” up to this point?
 - How does the Psalm 23:4-5 passage affect your perspective on your “**valley**”?

Read Hebrews 11:32-38

- How would you describe the difference between the “**valleys**” you face and those in the Hebrews passage?
- How does the passage in Hebrews challenge your way of thinking about “**valleys**” in your life?
- What are some valuable lessons you have learned by going through dark Valleys?

Sometimes it is hard for us to identify with people who lived 2000 or more years ago, let’s look at a modern day story of the “**valley**” experience.

Video:

<https://youtu.beZJixTyF5f4>

- What are your thoughts about Anita’s attitude toward her husband’s killers?
- In light of Anita’s story what do you think Psalms 23:5 means when it says “*you prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows*”?

There are some who would say that dark valleys come into our lives because we have sin or because we have not exhibited enough faith.

- How would you answer someone if they said this about your dark valley?

CLOSING THOUGHT

“While other worldviews lead us to sit in the midst of life’s joys, foreseeing the coming sorrows, Christianity empowers its people to sit in the midst of this world’s sorrows, tasting the coming joy.”

Timothy Keller

“Walking with God through Pain and Suffering”