



Sermon Outline & Study Guide

Living in the Valley

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Thought Provoker: When life seems out of control, people can do some foolish things. What's the funniest thing you remember hearing about, seeing, or doing in such a time?

Read Psalm 23:1,4 (NLT): *¹ The LORD is my shepherd; I have all that I need... ⁴ Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.*

- What do God's promises in Psalm 23 verses 1 and 4 mean to you? Pray that God will use you to offer comfort to others.

We need to replace facts with faith:

2 Corinthians 1:7 (NLT): *We are confident that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in the comfort God gives us.*

Remember...

1. Not Everything You Hear is True

Read Proverbs 14:15 (Message): *The gullible believe anything they're told but the prudent sift and weigh every word.*

- In what ways are you practicing discernment as you look at the news & social media?

Proverbs 14:8 (LB): *The wise man looks ahead. The foolish person attempts to fool himself and won't face the facts.*

2. This Will Pass

2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NLT): *¹⁷ For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! ¹⁸ So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.*

- How does knowing that your troubles will not last make you feel in light of what's going on today?

3. Be 'Church Without Walls'

God Wants to Use You to Help Others?

1 Corinthians 12:27 (NCV): *Together you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of that body.*

John 13:35 (NLT): *Your love for each other will show to the world that you are my disciples.*

- Not everyone is at equal risk of the coronavirus: the most vulnerable people are those over 60 with a pre-existing condition that weakens their immunity. What are some ways you can help someone in this demographic?