INTRODUCTION

The Lord Almighty is our Shepherd, and He shepherds us:

*With relentless love …*

1) Through His perfect provision for us, vs. 1,2:  *We never lack!*

2) By His abiding presence with us, vs. 4:  *We’re never alone!*

3) In His loving adoption of us, vs. 5:  *We are family!*

And if the Lord is our Shepherd, we are beloved and blessed.
Indeed, we are blessed *because* we are beloved!
MONDAY | JOHN 5:30-31
What are some characteristics of sheep? Are they known as independent animals or dependent animals? Are they able to easily protect themselves? In what ways are we similar to sheep? What is the role of the shepherd in a sheep’s life? What experience does David have as a shepherd? How do you think his experience helped him better understand the God he serves? What does Jesus say about His relationship to His sheep? What comfort should this provide the Christ-follower?

TUESDAY | JOHN 5:32-38
While it is true that we can identify with how David feels in this Psalm, what is the danger of making this Psalm all about us? What do we miss out on if we make man the focus? What point about God is David really trying to drive home for us? If the Lord is your Shepherd, what does it mean that you shall not want? How have you seen Him take care of you physically? How have you seen Him take care of you spiritually? How does the end of verse 3 help us keep in perspective why God does anything He does?

WEDNESDAY | JOHN 5:39-44
What kind of difficulties did David face in his life? What does he need to believe about God in order to have this confidence that He will take care of him in the midst of darkness? Have you ever experienced a season of darkness? In the midst of that darkness, what truths about the Lord did you meditate on? If you have not yet experienced a season of darkness, what truths about the Lord could you begin to solidify in your heart to carry you through any season of darkness?

THURSDAY | JOHN 5:45-47
We are all enticed to follow something, the ultimate question we have to ask is: Who are you following? Who is your shepherd? What do you need to learn about your Shepherd to hold to the confidence that David has? What hope does verse 6 provide? Do you have that same hope for the future?

FRIDAY | PRAY
Reflect on some of the questions from this week. Ask the Lord to help you grow in any areas you might be struggling in. Ask the Lord to deepen your confidence in His ability to provide for you physically, spiritually, and in the midst of darkness. Praise Him for His abundant kindness and care for His people.

If you have any questions or need additional resources email Pastor David: david.hegg@gracebaptist.org