

LIFE IN THE SHEEP SEATS PT5: ALIVE & WOOL

April 24,2022

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"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows." Psalm 23:5

A. The Shepherd's Been Her-bi-vore: He prepares.

B. Sheep Wrecks:

1. Don't be a 'sheepy head' = Ignoring the Pain by:

- a) Denying it
- b) Minimizing it
- c) Procrastinating in dealing with it.

- *"As I stood there in silence—not even speaking of good things—the turmoil within me grew worse. The more I thought about it, the hotter I got, igniting a fire of words."* Psalm 39:2-3

2. Don't be a sheep that 'fleece' = Running from the Pain

- *"Oh, that I had the wings of a dove! I would fly away and be at rest. I would flee far away and stay in the desert; I would hurry to my place of shelter, far from the tempest and storm."* Psalm 55:6-8

3. Don't 'sheep' like a log = Hiding from the Pain

- *"When I kept things to myself, I felt weak deep inside me. I moaned all day long."* Psalm 32:3 (NCV)
- *"Trust in him at all times, you people; pour out your hearts to Him for God is our refuge."* Psalms 62:8
- *"Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed."* James 5:16

4. Don't have 'sheepless' nights = Giving in to Worry

- *"To worry yourself to death with resentment would be a foolish, senseless thing to do."* Job 5:2 (GN)

5. Don't cry the sheep's 'lambent' = Harbouring Resentment

- *"You are only hurting yourself with your anger."* Job 18:4 (GN)
- *"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows."* Psalm 23:5

C. The Shepherd's Way:

1. He Serves.

- *"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies."*
- *"He (Jesus) now showed them the full extent of His love...took off His outer clothing and wrapped a towel around His waist. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples' feet, drying them with the towel." John 13:1,4-5*
- *"Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, 'Friends, haven't you any fish?' 'No,' they answered. He said, 'Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.' When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread...Jesus said to them, 'Come and have breakfast.'" John 21:4-6,9, 12 excerpts*
- *"Feed my lambs... take care of my sheep...Feed my sheep." John 21:15,16,17 excerpts*

2. He Safeguards: *"You anoint my head with oil."*

- Two reasons a shepherd put oil on the heads of the sheep: to protect and to heal.
- *"Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Philippians 4:8*
- *"Be filled with the Spirit." Ephesians 5:18*

3. He Supplies. *"My cup overflows".*

- a) With Grace: *"For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many!" Romans 5:15*
 - b) With Hope: *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13*
 - c) With Comfort: *"For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows." 2 Corinthians 1:5*
 - d) With Confidence. *"Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God." 2 Corinthians 3:4-5*
- 4) With Love: *"May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else." 1Thessalonians 3:12*
 - 5) With Joy: *"Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and your cup of joy will overflow." John 16:24 (LB)*

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