

SUMMER REST WITH THE SHEPHERD

The classroom is quiet now. The bulletin boards are bare, and the final papers filed away. After months of pouring out—mentoring, guiding, teaching—your soul may feel weary. In this stillness your Shepherd gently calls you to rest in His care.

Read [Psalm 23:2](#) in at least three translations. The link will take you to a list. Most translations read, “*He makes me lie down in green pastures.*” **What did you find in other translations?**

The [EASY](#) translation says, “*He takes me to green fields where I can rest.*” The [ICB](#) says, “*He gives me rest in green pastures.*” Like sheep, we don’t always know what is best for us, but our Good Shepherd does. Let God lead you to green pastures, not only to places of beauty and rest but also to moments of renewal in His presence. **What might this look like for you this summer?**

List at least three adjectives from the various translations that describe the “waters” to which Jesus leads us.

David’s imagery in this Psalm is rich with the sense of comfort and care. **In what areas of your life do you need the comfort and care of Jesus right now?**

Read [Psalm 23:3](#) in at least three translations. The link will take you to a list. **Write at least three translations for “He restores my soul.”**

What needs renewed, refreshed, or strengthened in your spirit this summer?

Summer days are not idle days; they are sacred ones. Jesus invites you to slow down, to breathe deeply, and to let Him restore what the busy year may have depleted. You were never meant to run on empty. Just as you’ve shepherded young hearts, now allow the Good Shepherd to tend to yours. Let His Word wash over you, His Spirit revive you, and His love remind you of who you are—not just an educator but His beloved.

Lord, thank You for being my Shepherd and for leading me into rest. As I step into this quieter season, help me to follow You to places of renewal. Restore what has been drained, and fill me again with joy, peace, and purpose. I trust You to care for my heart, my mind, and my soul. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

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