



Connect Notes - 29 June 2015

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD: PART ONE - Ps Phil Pringle

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalm 23v1 (NKJV)

The thread though this month's theme is peace; the devil has no peace to give, it is God's alone to give.

First of all, King David is declaring the Lord is his shepherd and that he needs shepherding.

- It can be a difficult gear for leaders to change into from "leading" to "following". Being flexible is important, it keeps you from losing your shape.

When you met Jesus you changed from being a Goat to a sheep.

- Goats are independent, stubborn and rebuff leadership, however sheep are the only animal on earth that require human intervention and care to survive.

- Sheep are not solitary animals, they live as a part of a flock. In this way, declaring that we have a shepherd confirms that we are both being led and are part of a larger family.

If we can't be guided, we are going to have difficulties in life - we must be able to listen to others, otherwise we are no more than a fool.

- When you have a teachable heart you can listen, acknowledge advice and instigate change. If He is your Lord, then what He says goes.

In order to bring His words, His wisdom and advice He established the Church.

- The Church presents a guidance for the congregation to follow through the will of God.

- Let's not be called to "just the minimum"; challenge yourself to stretch, grow and expand your life.

- God has come into our lives so that we can live, not just complete the minimum.

Finally, by establishing the Lord as our shepherd, we "shall not want".

- If we follow His ways He will lead us into blessing, from this revelation comes David's declaration "I shall not lack."

And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4v19 (NKJV)

Put the words of God in your mouth as the spirit looks to the word of God to move on and to move through. Throughout the Bible you will find that no matter where or how God provides for His flock.

Elisha and the Widows Oil, 2 Kings 4v1-6 (NKJV)

Firstly, this shows that serving the Lord does not inoculate anyone against difficult times. However when difficult times happen, God is searching your heart.

- Sometimes bad things happen, regardless of your faith. But God is measuring us through our difficult times.
- When you have a problem, run to God, remain in the flock and the Church. Everyone will have a difficult moment, but roll with the moment and remain focused on God.

V2, One of the best ways to get a miracle, is to ask a question: "What shall I do?" "What do you have?"

- Regardless of what we might think, God can take whatever we have if we're prepared to bring it to God.
- He can do *anything* with *anything*. You don't need to look anywhere, you have the answer in your hand.

V3, Next he declares: "Go and get some empty vessels, but do not just get a few."

- It was not just a matter of fixing her current situation, but rather a way for God to bless her through the rest of her life.
- This is His promise, that we shall not be abandoned or forsaken. That through until heaven, He will provide and He will see our needs met to overflowing.
- The only thing that caused the oil to stop was that they had no more empty vessels.

TALK ABOUT:

- * **What are we anxious for? How are we looking for peace?**
- * **Are we leaders who can follow? What does it mean to "change gears"?**
- * **Are we prepared to go beyond the minimum? How would we like to be remembered?**

PODCASTS

PHIL PRINGLE AUDIO PODCAST
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UPCOMING EVENTS

C3 CHURCH SYDNEY PRAYER MEETINGS

Each week our locations are gathering together across the City, humbling themselves and lifting up Sydney to God. We would love for you to join us on these powerful nights.

CITY / 7-8pm, Wednesday Fortnightly

OXFORD FALLS / 7-8pm, every Tuesday

PENRITH / 7-8pm, every Tuesday

ROZELLE / 7-8pm, every Tuesday

SILVERWATER / 7-8pm 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the Month

OXFORD FALLS PRAYER AND WORSHIP GATHERINGS

Prayer and Worship Meeting held **every Wednesday** evening in the **Prayer Chapel** from **7.30pm - 8.30pm**.

The Prayer Chapel will also be open from **6pm - Midnight** on the **last Friday of every Month** for worship and prayer.

Both gatherings will be led by Minister of Prayer Heidi Wysman.