**Sermon Series** – The Good Shepherd – Finding My Enoughness in the Provision of Christ

**Big Idea** -- I find my ENOUGHNESS in the provision of Christ!

**Scripture** – read Psalm 23 and/or recite it as a group

**Summary –** As imager bearers, we’re wired to long for, search for, chase after, be filled with and satisfied by ENOUGHNESS. Enoughness can either give you REST, PEACE, and CONTENTMENT or it can drive you into a manic/depressive hamster’s wheel depending on where you seek to supply your enoughness. We want to believe that if we could just attain some metric, then value, validation, and love would be ours forever. We believe that if we got enough, we’d be enough. But, the problem is that no matter how close we get there, it's never quite enough. We’re never quite there. Enoughness is a word that exposes who or what we’re seeking for validity and IDENTITY. Enoughness drives us to believe that if I just had this or owned that. If I could get it; keep it; grow it; stockpile it; and live off it . . . then, I would have ENOUGHNESS. The sobering, liberating REALITY is that we will never find ENOUGHNESS in the city of man. Enoughness can only be found in the SHEPHERD OF HEAVEN.

**Questions** –

* Where do you find your enoughness? Where do you search to justify your significance?
* In the first verse David says, “The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want.” What does it mean to you when you read, “I shall not want?”

Randy explains this as, “I shall not want means I have everything the SHEPHERD says I need.” How does this make sense when so many in our world are “in want?”

* Randy told the story of a young pastor who asked a wise mentor: “How do I become spiritually healthy?” The sage paused and replied: You must ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life.” Dallas Willard said, “Hurry is the great enemy of spiritual life in our day. You must ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life.” What is the connection between spiritual health and hurry?

How does our behavior change when we hurry?

How do we break the habit of hurrying?

* Verse 3 says, “He restores my soul.” That verse has come to mean that God took my tired, deflated spirit and filled me. Inspired me. God made me feel better about myself. Literally, the verse reads: He repented me. That is, he caused me to repent. The verb “restore” means to “return.” What is the different perspective between the two interpretations?
* When a sheep is lost, a shepherd will wait until it is so faint that it cannot stand, and then the shepherd will put a rope around the sheep and pull that sheep out of danger. Why does the shepherd wait until it is exhausted to rescue the sheep?

How does this apply to our relationship with our Shepherd?

* The paths of righteousness are those paths that reflect the righteousness of God. How do you find the paths of righteousness?

What keeps you on the path of righteousness?

* God leads us on paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. What is this verse telling us?