



100

BIBLE
VERSES

That

MADE
AMERICA

*Defining Moments That Shaped
Our Enduring Foundation of Faith*

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STUDY GUIDE

100 Bible Verses That Made America
Study Guide for Individual or Group Use

Introduction

The book, *100 Bible Verses That Made America*, is a panoramic tour of American history that drops into specific moments over a period of five hundred years and describes specific incidents when the Bible has made a difference in the lives of our leaders and has impacted our nation.

America is unique in its history.

The arrival of the Pilgrims and Puritans in the early 1600s established a climate of religious freedom and biblical enthusiasm. The Founding Fathers were people who kept their Bibles open. Not all of them were Christians and none of them were perfect. But there are more quotations in their collected writings from the Bible than from any other source. Even those who attacked the Bible, like Thomas Paine, knew its content thoroughly. Even those who rejected its supernatural teachings, like Thomas Jefferson, appreciated its ethical wisdom.

Furthermore, the history of America has been shaped by massive revivals of biblical proportions. The Great Awakening in the Colonies united the people spiritually and truly paved the way for the signing of the Declaration of Independence. After the Revolutionary War, the Second Great Awakening again united the nation spiritually and established a Judeo-Christian moral foundation that kept America strong for two hundred years.

Many of our leaders have been dedicated Christians, and it can be argued that no nation thus far in history has made a bigger impact on evangelizing the world.

People often ask the question, “Is America a Christian nation, or was it ever?”

The answer, of course, is “Yes” and “No.”

America has never been a Christian nation in the sense of having an official state church funded by the government and to which all its citizens are commanded to pledge allegiance. That’s the very system the Pilgrims and Puritans came to these shores to escape.

Nor has America ever been a Christian nation in the sense that all its citizens are saved and born again followers of Christ.

But America has been a Christian nation in more general ways. The Pilgrims, the Puritans, the Founding Fathers, the revival movements, and the biblical faith of many of our leaders have established a climate in America that has been unique among the nations.

My prayer for America is threefold: that we’ll experience another massive awakening; that the followers of Christ will remain like leaven in our culture; and that those of us who love the Bible will remind the others of the biblical heritage that is God’s unique gift to the United States.

This study is divided into ten units. Since there are one hundred stories in the book, we’ve selected one story from each group of ten, and we’ll focus on the verse behind the story. We suggest, then, making this a ten-week study.

If you're studying on your own, be aware that the verbiage in this guide is geared toward group study, but the content can be used in personal study as well. Instead of having discussions where suggested, spend time in contemplation and meditation, journaling your thoughts as you go.

If you're studying as a group, each participant can read ten stories a week, and in your group time you can focus on one of the stories and the verse behind it.

May I also suggest you open or close each session by offering George Washington's prayer for America, which is found in the front of the book and is given here below:

I now make it my earnest prayer that God . . . would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed Religion (Jesus Christ), and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation.

—George Washington, in his letter to the governors of the thirteen new United States, June 8, 1783

Thank you for reading and studying *100 Bible Verses That Made America*. For more resources and information, visit **robertjmorgan.com**.

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America Needs God’s Blessings—And So Do You! (Stories 1-10)

Story 6 – The City on a Hill: Matthew 5:14

A Study of Matthew 5:1-16

Opening: Begin every session by discussing the group of ten stories assigned for the week, in this case stories #1-10. Ask participants, “Which of these stories most intrigued you? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?” Then transition to story #6 about John Winthrop and his famous sermon, “A Model of Christian Charity,” or, “The City on a Hill Sermon.” That leads to our Bible study.

Watch Video

Bible Study: Matthew 5:1-16

- This is our Lord's first recorded sermon, and His introduction contains the beatitudes.
- Discuss the word "Blessed." How does a blessed person know it? How do they feel? How does it change their attitude about life?
- Discuss the progression of the beatitudes.
 - "Poor in spirit" – We recognize our spiritual poverty
 - "Mourn" – We are sorrowful for our poverty-stricken souls
 - "Meek" – We humbly recognize Jesus as our Master
 - "Hunger and thirst for righteousness" – We long for spiritual nourishment
 - "Merciful" – We begin to develop spiritual qualities such as mercy toward others
 - "Pure in heart" – God helps us clean up our lives
 - "Peacemakers" – We long to share with others the Gospel of peace
 - "Persecuted" – This brings a reaction and sometimes persecution
- At what stage are you in this progression?
- Is there persecution around you today?
- How are we to feel when people oppose us? Look at verse 12.
- When we fulfill these beatitudes, what do we become? Study verses 13-15.
- Who is the city on a hill?
- What are we then to do each day? See verse 16.

Conclusion: It's remarkable how Jesus, in the opening words of His first recorded sermon, presented a survey of the entire Christian life and ministry. Ask participants which of these

verses most spoke to them. What are some specific ways our light can shine and we can do good deeds this week? How will this impact our nation?



America Needs a Fresh Vision of God—And So Do You! (Stories 11-20)

Story 15 – I Dared to Rejoice in God: Isaiah 40:1

A Study of Isaiah 40

Opening: Begin every session by discussing the group of ten stories assigned for the week, in this case stories #11-20. Ask participants, “Which of these stories most impressed you? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?” Then transition to story #15 about David Brainerd and his diary. That leads to our Bible study.

Watch Video

Bible Study: Isaiah 40

- Isaiah was writing to the Jewish exiles of the Babylonian captivity, who had been deported to refugee camps far from home with no immediate hope of returning. Many had lost loved ones during the Babylonian invasion. Isaiah wrote chapter 40 to give them great comfort.
- Read Isaiah 40:1. Ask the participants if they can recall a time when someone gave them needed comfort during a period of anxiety or grief. What does comfort feel like? Why is it so needed? Has there ever been a time when you felt tangible comfort from God Himself? Consult 2 Corinthians 1:3-5.
- How does God comfort us?
- Read verse 9. What was Isaiah shouting to the people of Judah?
- What does God do for us in verses 10 and 11?
- Survey the vivid images of God's majesty and power in verses 12-20.
- What should we know that we perhaps don't, or that we've perhaps forgotten? See verses 21-22.
- How does God regard the leaders of the nations of this world? See verses 23-24.
- On whom should we have our eye? See verses 25-26.
- How do we sometimes feel? See verse 27.
- What should we do when we feel that way? See verses 28-31.

Conclusion: The key to this chapter is Isaiah 40:9: “Behold your God!” The people of Judah were discouraged with their nation, which had suffered a devastating defeat. But Isaiah wanted to get their eyes off themselves and their fallen leaders. He wanted them to experience a fresh vision of God’s sovereign control and majesty. When that happens, our strength is renewed and our hope returns. How can America get a new vision of God by seeing how we live our lives?



America Needs Its Slogan: In God We Trust—And So Do You! (Stories 21-30)

Story 25 – The Boy Who Saw the Battle of Bunker Hill: Psalm 62:8

A Study of Psalm 62

Opening: Begin by discussing the group of ten stories assigned for the week, in this case stories #21-30. Ask participants, “Which of these stories most impressed you? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?” Then transition to story #25 about John Quincy Adams. You might cross-reference story #58, which is also about Adams. That leads to our Bible study.

Watch Video

Bible Study: Psalm 62

- Notice the superscription. This was a Psalm of David, and he wrote it for others to sing. Since this is a short Psalm (only twelve verses), read it or have it read, and ask the participants which verse initially struck them in a personal way.
- Lots of things can torment us. Psalm 62, according to its heading, was written by David while being tormented by a group of people who were attacking him. We all have days like that. Maybe something or someone is tormenting you today. Maybe the devil is doing it. He's an expert at that. Maybe you're tormented by inner fears and failures. David wrote Psalm 62 to show us how to manage in such times. This is one of the most practical Psalms in the book, and it teaches us something we must all learn to do—to take care of ourselves under difficult situations.
- Read verses 1-2 (CSB). How might we define the word “rest”? In what areas do we most need this kind of rest?
- Read verses 3-4. Here David has something to say to the people aggravating him. Do you have people like that in your life? David describes what they're trying to do to him and what they're saying about him, but his attitude is, “You can't upset me that easily because my soul finds rest in God alone. He is my rock, my fortress.”
- Read verses 5-7. To whom is David speaking here? He has something to say to himself. He is preaching to himself. How important is it for us to learn this technique? What does it look like in our own experience? When you preach to yourself, what should you say?
- Read verses 8-10. This is the passage that spoke to Adams' mother. To whom is David speaking here? When should we trust in the Lord? What else should we do at all times?
 - Psalm 34:1

- Psalm 119:20
 - Proverbs 17:17
 - Romans 1:10
 - 2 Corinthians 9:8
 - 2 Thessalonians 3:18
- Read verses 11-12. To whom is David speaking here? It's a prayer to God. What does he say to God?

Conclusion: If we're to trust in God at all times, that means now. What personal concern do you most need to cast into the Lord's arms? In what way do you most need peace? America's famous slogan says, "In God We Trust." Is that true for you?



America Needs a Biblical Set of Ethics—And So Do You! (Stories 31-40)

Story 36 – God’s Instructions to a New Nation: Micah 6:8

A Study of Micah 6:1-8

Opening: Begin every session by discussing the group of ten stories assigned for the week, in this case stories #31-40. Ask participants, “Which of these stories did you find most interesting? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?” Then shift the discussion to story #36 about the frequency with which America’s Founding Fathers quoted Micah 6:8, as illustrated by Reverend George Duffield. That leads to our Bible study.

Watch Video

Bible Study: Micah 6:1-8

- Micah has been called the Bible's prophet to small towns. He preached at roughly the same time as Isaiah, but Isaiah was based in the capital city of Jerusalem. Micah was out in the villages. Notice how frequently he refers to small towns just in chapter 1, for example. It's appropriate that God gave him the privilege of unveiling some major news about one special village in Micah 5:2. America has always been a nation of small towns and big cities, and those who work in small towns can experience huge results.
- The book of Micah falls into two parts. In chapters 1-5, Micah preached sermons about judgment (chapter 1), sin (chapters 2-3), and restoration (chapters 4-5). The last two chapters of his book (6-7) are in the form of a dialogue, in which God imagines having a conversation with the population of the nation of Judah.
- Read 6:1. The Lord challenges the people to stand up and explain why they are so rebellious. What is it about God they don't like?
- Read verse 2. Now the Lord is going to make His complaint, even if only the mountains will listen.
- In verse 3, God demands to know what He has done to make the people so weary of Him, He goes on to remind them in verse 4 of how He delivered them from Egypt. In verse 5, He explains how He delivered them from enemies in the wilderness and led them to the Promised Land.
- In verse 6, the people respond. They wearily say, in effect, "What does it take to please God? We are weary of trying. Should we keep bringing Him burnt offerings? Does He

want thousands of rams and ten thousand rivers of olive oil? Does He expect us to sacrifice our firstborn son to Him?”

- Discuss ways in which people today are using mistaken methods in an effort to please God.
- Now read verse 8 and sense the drama of God’s thundering reply. Discuss the three things God desires and how they form the basis for solid character and biblical ethics.
 - What does it mean to do justly?
 - What does it mean to love mercy?
 - In practical terms, how can we walk humbly with our God?

Conclusion: Micah 6:1-8 is a perceived conversation between Almighty God and the nation of Judah. Imagine the same conversation taking place between God and America, between God and you. What one thing can we do to better fulfill the requirements of verse 8?



America Needs to Know Who's in Charge—And So Do You! (Stories 41-50)

Story 42 – The Father of American Geography: Psalm 11:3

A Study of Psalm 11

Opening: Begin by discussing the group of ten stories assigned for the week, in this case stories #41-50. Ask participants, “Which of these stories most intrigued you? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?” Then transition to story #42 about Jedidiah Morse and his interesting career. Also note, there’s a story about his son, Samuel Morse, later in the book (#59). Read the segment of Morse’s sermon, which will lead us into our Bible study of Psalm 11.

Watch Video

Bible Study: Psalm 11

- Have you ever heard the statement from Psalm 11:3: “If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?” Sometimes we interpret that verse to describe the alarm we feel as we see the moral foundation of America crumbling. But one has to read Psalm 11 very carefully, hopefully in a modern translation that adds quotation marks. Let’s analyze it.
- Note the superscription. This Psalm is attributed to David.
- Psalm 11:1a is David’s opening declaration: “In the Lord I put my trust.”
- In the last half of verse 1, David addresses someone near him—maybe an advisor, a friend, a spouse, a general. Notice the quotation marks in verse 1. That represents the advice he is hearing.
- Someone has told David that he is in imminent danger. They are telling him to fly away like a bird heading to the mountains (verse 1). He notes that some enemy has an arrow aimed right at his heart (verse 2), that the foundation of his security is destroyed (verse 3).
- Now, go back to verse 1. David’s response to all that is to say: “In the Lord I take refuge. How can you say all of that to me? Why are you taking such a hopeless, anxious approach? What’s wrong with you?”
- David explains the source of his calmness and confidence in verse 4: “The Lord is in His holy temple, the Lord’s throne is in heaven.” Notice the twofold description of the Lord. What do we call someone who works in the temple? What do we call someone who sits on His throne?

- Compare Genesis 14:18 and Hebrews 7:1-11.
- What is God doing from His temple and throne? Read Psalm 11:5-6.
- When conditions become dangerous and desperate and when the foundations are collapsing, instead of alarm we should feel anticipation. Notice the last line of the Psalm.

Conclusion: Have you seen Psalm 11 in a new way? What message can you apply to your own heart and life? We don't know the exact situation David faced when he wrote this, but perhaps you know exactly the situation you're facing as you read it. Why not adopt Psalm 11 as your theme for whatever season of difficulty you're in?



America Needs to Stand on God’s Promises—And So Do You! (Stories 51-60)

Story 60 – Old Hickory’s Firm Foundation: 2 Peter 1:4

A Study of 2 Peter 1:1-11

Opening: As usual, begin this session discussing the group of ten stories assigned for the week, in this case stories #51-60. Ask participants, “Which of these stories most intrigued you? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?” Then move on to story #60 about Andrew Jackson. There’s much to admire about Jackson—and some things that disappoint us. It helps to remember that his wife, Rachel, was a devout Christian believer who died the day before they were to leave for the White House. Jackson steadfastly resisted placing his faith in Christ until late in life. But when he did come to Christ, the change was significant. That leads to our Bible study.

Watch Video

Bible Study: 2 Peter 1:1-11

- As you read *100 Bible Verses That Made America*, you'll find several occasions when the hymn "How Firm a Foundation" was meaningful to certain leaders. If you don't know this hymn, find it online and listen to it. You may even want to print out the words and notice all the biblical references. Each stanza of the hymn refers to one of the Bible's precious promises. A study of this hymn is a Bible study in itself.
- The hymn "How Firm a Foundation" was originally titled "Scripture Promises" and included a notation from 2 Peter 1:4.
- Read 2 Peter 1:1-11.
- The book of 2 Peter represents the last words of the apostle Peter shortly before he was executed. There are three short chapters. Chapter 1 is devoted to our faith; chapter 2 describes our foes; and chapter 3 is all about our future.
- Peter identifies himself and gives his introduction in verses 1-2.
- Study verses 3-4 and notice this chain reaction of logic: God's power is conveyed to us through His promises, which transforms our personalities.
- What are some of these precious promises? Make a list of your favorites.
- If verses 3-4 tell us what God does for us, verses 5-7 describe the effort we must make. List the traits we must be developing. Which is most difficult for you? Which do you need the most?

- When we combine God's power (verses 3-4) with our Spirit-empowered efforts (verses 5-7), what is the result? See verse 8.
- What happens if we ignore this sequence of logic? See verse 9.
- What promises are given in verses 10-11?

Conclusion: There are two aspects to this paragraph of Scripture: God's promises (verses 3-4) and our determined efforts (verses 5-7). What specific promise do you want to take into the week with you? What specific character trait do you want to work on, and what simple step can you take in that direction?



America Needs Hope—And So Do You! (Stories 61-70)

Story 61 – Death in the House: John 11:25

A Study of John 11

Opening: Begin the session discussing the group of ten stories assigned for the week, in this case stories #61-70. Ask participants, “Which of these stories most intrigued you? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?” Then segue to story #61, which is another story about John Quincy Adams. Chaplain R. R. Gurley used John 11:25 as the text for Adams’ funeral.

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Bible Study: John 11

- John 11 is a chapter of hope and resurrection, but it begins with sickness. Read verses 1-3.
- Read verse 4. What did Jesus mean when He said, “This sickness will not end in death” (NIV)? Is that a truth we can personally apply?
- Read verse 5. Why do you think this verse is in the Bible? Do you feel you can put your own name in this verse?
- Read verses 6-7. Compare Matthew 14:22-25.
- Has there been a time in your life when you thought Jesus was late in arriving or acting? Why did Jesus tarry on this occasion? What can we learn from that?
- Read verses 11-14. Compare 1 Corinthians 15:51 and 1 Thessalonians 4:13. In what way can death be compared to sleep for the Christian?
- Read John 11:17-27. What does Jesus promise Martha?
- Read verses 18-35. Notice how the two sisters said the very same words to Christ, but they each spoke it in a way that reflected their personalities. Martha, who was all business, received a wonderful theological reply. Mary, who was the emotional one, caused Jesus to weep.
- Read verses 38-42. Where was Jesus looking as He prayed? Why?
- Read verses 43-44. What is the message for us?

Conclusion: There are two great resurrection stories in the book of John. The first eleven chapters describe the public ministry of Christ and grow into a crescendo of drama that climaxes in the resurrection of Lazarus. Starting with chapter 12, John describes the final week of Christ,

in which He privately teaches His disciples. This material climaxes with an even greater zenith—the resurrection of Jesus Himself (chapter 20). There is a great difference between the two resurrections. Lazarus died again and will be raised in the future when Jesus returns. When Jesus rose from the dead, His body was transformed and glorified for eternity (see Philippians 3:20-21). But the resurrection of Lazarus demonstrates our Lord's power over death. For Christians, our sicknesses, illnesses, and diseases never end in death, but in the glory of God. Perhaps a fitting end would be for participants to describe moments in their lives when the truth of the resurrection gave them needed hope in a time of sorrow.



America Needs Peace—And So Do You! (Stories 71-80)

Story 78 – The Biblical Secret of America’s Retailer: Matthew 6:33

A Study of Matthew 6:25-34

Opening: Discuss stories #71-80. Ask participants, “Which of these stories most intrigued you? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?” Then transition to story #78 about John Wanamaker, the famous department store giant in Philadelphia. The secret of his success is found at the end of the story—his understanding of Matthew 6:33.

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Bible Study: Matthew 6:25-34

- This passage is Jesus' definitive teaching about worry and anxiety. In the lead-up to it, Jesus warns against loving the fleeting treasures of life more than the eternal values of God (verses 19-24). In verse 24, He encourages us to love God, not money. If that's true for us, we can proceed into verses 25-34 with its constant theme, "Do not worry."
- Discuss the first reason we shouldn't worry (verse 25). Life is more than the things we worry about. It's more than the physical and material realms. What do you think Jesus was saying? How can you apply that truth to your current worrisome situation?
- The second reason we shouldn't worry is in verse 26. What is the principle Jesus is getting at here?
- The third reason is in verse 27. In asking His question, what was Jesus implying? What does the principle in this verse mean to you?
- The fourth interdiction against worry is in verses 28-30. The key is in the last phrase, when Jesus addresses His followers as "you of little faith." What does that tell us about an anxious spirit?
- The fifth reason we shouldn't worry is in verses 31-32. How does needless worry make us like the pagans?
- That leads to the key verse—Matthew 6:33. What does it mean to seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness? What are some ways in which we do this?
- The last verse gives us a very specific commandment. We are not, under any circumstances, to worry about what? Why?

Conclusion: Compare this passage with selected verses from Psalm 37, and with Philippians 4:4-9. What difference would it make in your life if you took these words at face value, seriously?



America Needs Revival—And So Do You! (Stories 81-90)

Story 90 – Eisenhower and His Preacher: 2 Chronicles 7:14

A Study of 2 Chronicles 7:1-16

Opening: Ask participants, “Which of these stories (from #81-90) most intrigued you? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?” Then transition to story #90 about Dwight Eisenhower. That leads to our Bible study in 2 Chronicles.

Watch Video

Bible Study: 2 Chronicles 7:1-16

- In preparation for this lesson, scan 2 Chronicles 1-6. These chapters tell the story of King Solomon building the Jewish temple in Jerusalem. The actual service of dedicating the temple begins in chapter 5. In chapter 6, Solomon gave a speech to the people (verses 4-11), then he offered a long prayer of dedication (verses 12-42). In response, the glory of the Lord descended like fire from heaven and filled the temple (2 Chronicles 7:1-3). The remainder of the day and of the week consisted of glorious celebration (verses 4-10).
- After all the pageantry was over and everyone returned to their homes, God appeared to Solomon during the night, and His special message is recorded in verses 12-22.
- Read verse 13. Compare this with what Solomon had prayed in 2 Chronicles 6:26-27.
- Verse 14 is the key verse in 2 Chronicles, which is the Bible's primary book on spiritual revival and awakenings. Break down this verse. On paper or a marker board, dissect it and list its four commands and three promises.
- What does this mean for your church and for you personally? Where can you begin in the process of implementing this prescription for revival?
- From your prior reading of *100 Bible Verses That Made America*, discuss the role that spiritual awakenings have played in America's history.
- Do you think another spiritual awakening or revival is on the way?

Conclusion: We cannot control the Holy Spirit's movements in our nation regarding revival, but we can fulfill the conditions for personal revival. We can let revival start with us. In fact, God's people should live in a state of ongoing revival. What do you need to do today to experience the kind of revival that, in God's grace, may kindle the flame for others?



America Needs the Good Shepherd—And So Do You! (Stories 91-100)

Story 99 – The Day We'll Never Forget: Psalm 23:4

A Study of Psalm 23

Opening: Begin this last session by discussing the group of ten stories assigned for the week, in this case stories #91-100. Remember the comments in the introduction of the book. No one in American history is perfect. It isn't individuals who are perfect; it is the Word of God. Wherever we stand on politics, we can't deny the influence of infallible Scripture on fallible leaders. Ask participants, "Which of these stories most intrigued you? What did you learn? Whom did you most admire? What lessons does our nation need to learn from its past, as reflected in these ten incidents?" Then transition to story #99 about the events of September 11, 2001. If the group is old enough, ask the participants what they remember about that day.

Watch Video

Bible Study: Psalm 23

- This is one of the best-known passages in the Bible. In this study, we want to think of it in terms of Genesis 37:12-18. Locate a Bible map and draw the route Joseph took from his home in Hebron, and on to Shechem, and finally to Dothan. Because of weather and climate, the sheep had to migrate to the north in the hot summer months—but sheep aren't like birds that can migrate on their own. They have to be led by a shepherd. This was the migratory route that the family of Jacob used annually from the time of Jacob to the time of David—a period of nearly a thousand years.
- Now study Psalm 23 in light of Genesis 37.
- The theme of Psalm 23 is found in verse 1. Compare this verse to the one we looked at earlier in this study—Matthew 6:33. Is this the same truth?
- Verse 2 represents Hebron, the home base or ranch where the sheep wintered. What do you think is implied by green pastures and still waters? Those are figures of speech. If you translate those from figurative to literal language, what do they refer to? In your life, when do you experience green pastures and still waters?
- Verse 3a says that the Shepherd knows how to refresh or restore the souls of His sheep. How does that work in your life?

- Verse 3b refers to the start of the migration. The Good Shepherd begins to lead us down the road and along the right paths. How does He guide us? If someone asked you, “How does God guide you?” how would you reply?
- Verse 4 speaks of the dangerous and frightening canyons that are part of the route. Have you experienced any of these? When? How? What keeps us from falling apart or collapsing in fear during these times?
- In verse 5, the Shepherd and sheep arrive in the northern tablelands. What happens there? If you drop the metaphorical language and speak in literal terms, what does this mean? What exactly does the Lord Jesus—the Good Shepherd of John 10—do for us?
- The return trip is described in verse 6. What follows us, and how often does it happen?
- In David’s time, the father’s house meant returning back home to Hebron. But in the poem of Psalm 23, what does it mean for us?

Conclusion: For this last session, devote some closing time to praying specifically for America to find and follow the Good Shepherd. Pray for the nation’s leaders—those you like and those you don’t. Pray for the next election. Pray for all three divisions of our federal government. Pray for your state and your city and its leaders. Pray for revival. And ask God to come beside us and guide us through the night with the light from above.