



Here's what happens...

In this section of Psalm 23, things take a dark turn...into dark valleys. But God, our shepherd, is still there with us! The Israelites have a hard time when they escape from slavery in Egypt and wander through a desert. But God shows he's with them through pillars of cloud and fire.

Bible Point:

God is with us in hard times.

"The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need"
(Psalm 23:1).

Through the Week

- Get a cotton ball for each person in your family.
- Read Psalm 23 together.
- Give your cotton ball "sheep" names.
- Review Exodus 13:17-22 together to see how a cotton ball can also remind you of the cloud that represented God's presence with the Israelites.
- Carry your sheepy clouds with you all week as a reminder that our shepherd, God, is always with us. You might put them in a pocket, purse, or backpack.

Discuss and Watch "Bryan's Story"

Say: God is with us in hard times. Sometimes it can be hard to remember God is there when things get really scary or sad. Let's see how a boy named Bryan saw God during hard times.

Watch "Bryan's Story."

Ask: • **What do you think is the hardest thing Bryan had to go through?**

• **How did you see God at work even though Bryan had a hard time?**

• **Tell about a story of your own that Bryan's story reminded you of.** Share your own story first.

Say: **Bryan lost his home and all his stuff. He had to move far away. He was really scared of the storm! But God kept Bryan and his family safe from the storm and even helped Bryan's friends remake the picture he lost. God is with us in hard times, so let's remember to look for him!**

Talk About This...

- What things in your life feel hardest right now?