

## UNDERSTANDING THE TWENTY-THIRD PSALM

*Here are some suggestions for explaining this Psalm to Children.*

*The Lord is my shepherd;*

The Lord takes care of us, watching over us day and night.

*I shall not want.*

The Lord gives us everything we really need, so that we will not “want” for anything.

*He makes me to lie down in green pastures;*

*He leads me beside the still waters.*

The Lord gives us food for our minds and our bodies.

He gives us the truths in the Word to feed our minds.

These truths teach us how to do what is good.

*He restores my soul;*

*He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*

When we follow the truths of His Word, the Lord can lead us along good paths in life.

*Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,*

*I will fear no evil;*

With the Lord's help, we can face difficult situations.

Everything will work out for the best if we follow Him.

*For You are with me;*

*Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.*

The Word is like a shepherd's rod and staff, guiding and protecting us.

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;*

The Lord feeds us in good times and hard times.

*You anoint my head with oil;*

*My cup runs over.*

The Lord's love is like oil anointing our heads.

His love is neverending, overflowing our “cup”.

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;*

*And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

We will live with the Lord in heaven if we let Him be our Shepherd.