**FOCUS** in 2020

June 14, 2020

Dr. Jerry Edmonson, *Founding and Lead Pastor*

**I Am Not Alone –** *A study in Psalm 23*

***More with Less***



The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not **want**.

We all have a broken **wanter**.

When we always want **more** ... what we have seems **less**.

If you got everything you wanted, would you really be happy?

* If you got everything you wanted … you would be **God**.
* If you got everything you wanted … people would **use** you.
* If you got everything you wanted … you would never be **content**.

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not **want**.

**This is a Psalm of relationship.** Here is the big idea that you and I need to remember more than anything else:

God does not **give** me what I **want** until **He** is all I **want**.

*God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in Him.* John Piper

**Is God enough?**

***Delight yourself in the Lord****, and he will give you the desires of your heart.* Psalm 37:4

When God is **enough**, less seems like more.

**R**elationship + **P**rayer + **T**rust = **M**orewith **L**ess

**Living a Life of More with Less**

I will align my **wants** with **God’s** will.

*saying, “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”* Luke 22:42

I will follow the **presence** of the Good Shepherd in my life.

But I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. Galatians 5:16

I will not **accept** my wants at face value.

For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the **things you want to do**. Galatians 5:17

*For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do* ***what I want****, but I do the very thing I hate.* Romans 7:15

*For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.* Romans 7:19

*Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!* Romans 7:24–25a

I will spend time **discerning** my wants - flesh **versus** spirit.

Now the **works of the flesh** are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and **things like these**. Galatians 5:19–21a

But the **fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Galatians 5:22–23

I will follow where my Shepherd **leads** and trust His **love** for me.

If we **live by the Spirit**, let us also **keep in step with the Spirit**. Galatians 5:25

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.* ***I am the good shepherd****. The good shepherd* ***lays down his life for the sheep****.* John 10:10–11

*But* ***seek first the kingdom of God*** *and* ***his righteousness****, and all these things will be added to you.* Matthew 6:33