

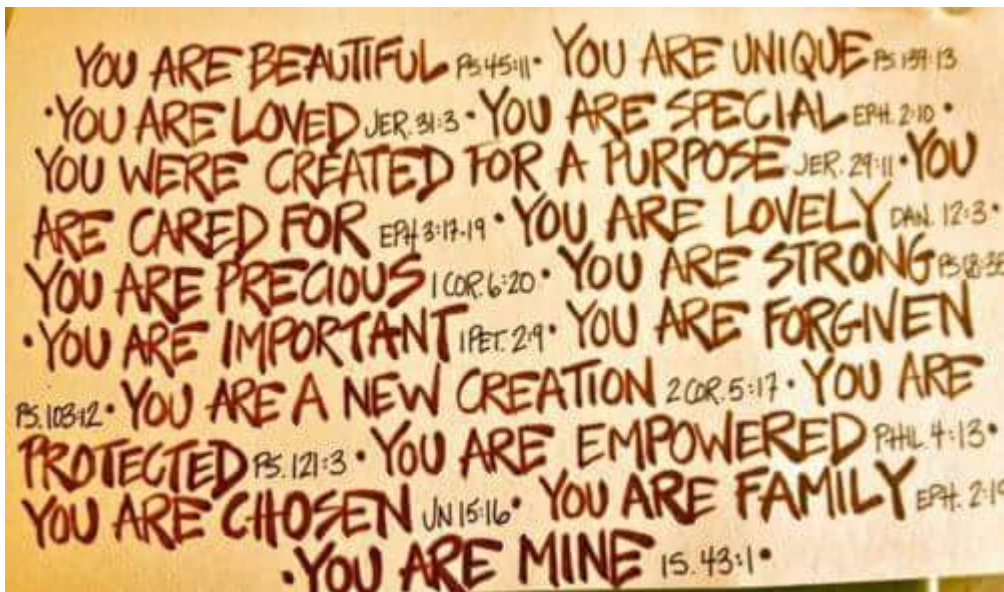
Questions for Further Study

5th July 2020

Hope

Psalm 23:6

1. We, as sheep, have to put all our trust in the shepherd to lead us safely home. The hope (confident expectation) we have is a living one, not just for the future but for right now. In what areas do you need to know that hope? Where do you struggle? How can we know that certainty for ourselves?
2. Although David was a King and the leader of Israel, he was also once a lowly shepherd. Seen as the lowest people in society, shepherds were often viewed as “not good enough”. Have you ever faced rejection, or felt that you were not good enough? Do you still see yourself in that way? Perhaps you can take some time to reflect on some of these truths.



3. “We don’t know what the future holds, but we do know who holds the future.” When you look to the future, are you filled with hope or dread? Psalm 23 says that “Goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life?” Has that been your experience? When you look back at the tough times, can you see God working for good amidst it all? How does that help you when you look forward, especially if you are experiencing difficulties right now?
4. God promises that those who follow him will “dwell (sit, rest) in the house of the Lord forever.” Do you ever yearn to be “home” in heaven, or do you fear death? Read 2 Cor 5: 1-8. Revelation 21: 1-5. Ask God to let that vision of the future give you hope and confidence.