

# The Facilitator

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Community Groups @ Trinity Presbyterian Church

1/29/17

**Text: Psalm 23**

**Title: Paths of Righteousness**

**Teacher: Tim Rice**

## **Surrender through Prayer:**

*Surrender through prayers for Illumination and Transformation, asking that Jesus would meet with you in this time.*

## **Engage with the Sermon**

*Read the passage together*

In his sermon, Tim taught us about the Lord leading us in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. As we are broken and sinful we regularly question God and the way he is leading us, believing that he is making wrong choices and wanting to do things our own way. The simple but hard truth is that we must submit to his leading in order to follow him and walk in paths of righteousness, and the only way we can follow after him is if he first works in our hearts to wash us clean and call us back from our rebellion. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, has the Vision and Courage to go before us and lead his wandering sheep in paths of righteousness, to be both right with our neighbor and right with God, all so that the world would know that He is loving and merciful and worth following.

## **Reflection Questions:**

1. **LEAD** *(Tim said that good leadership required both vision and courage. A vision to reach a destination and work to get there, and the courage to go first.)*

**When have you felt like you lacked the vision or courage to do what God was asking you to do? What keeps you from asking him for it?**

**What leaders has God placed in your life that are hard for you to eagerly follow? What makes them hard to follow?**

**Who have you asked to follow you without giving them your vision or showing them your courage?**

2. **FOLLOW** *(Tim told the story from C. S. Lewis' "Voyage of the Dawn Treader," where Eustace had been transformed into a dragon to reflect his dragon-ish spirit. He couldn't remove his dragon scales on his own and he needed Aslan (The figure of Jesus) to cut deep into his heart and remove the scales for him so that he could be washed clean. The miracle of Jesus is that he stands with us at our very worst to wash us clean, and we have to let him do it or we will never get rid of our dragon-ish spirit, and have Right relationship with God and with our neighbor.*

**What relationship(s) or duties in your life are you most likely to engage in without asking God for help and direction?**

**Where in your life do you assume you know best and don't need to ask God for direction?**

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## **A.C.T.S.**

### **1. ADORATION**

*What draws you to Adore and Praise God for His attributes and Actions?*

*Worship the LORD for His good and wise leadership. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that He goes first - in all ways - in loving us, providing for us, redeeming us and in daily guiding us in His good design.*

### **2. CONFESSION**

*How has this sermon brought to mind sin that you need to Confess and Repent of?*

*How have you lived as if God's leadership is foolish or wrong? Confess your pride and unbelief to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you and change your defiant heart to be truly trusting and loyal.*

### **3. THANKSGIVING**

*What has drawn you to thank Jesus for his salvation (past, present, future)?*

*Give thanks to Jesus for His work to redeem us rather than abandoning us as He justly could. Thank Him for identifying with you bearing your guilt by His death, and restoring you to wholeness by His resurrection power.*

### **4. SUPPLICATION**

*In what particular ways do you need Holy Spirit to transform you?*

*Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you the fruit of faithfulness. Jesus' loyalty implanted in you is good news! So ask for the Spirit to help you live faithfully following the Father's leadership.*

## **Prepare for Gospel Community:**

*How has God impacted you the most through today's passage(s)?*

*Who do you know that is suspicious of God's leading? Pray for them, asking the Lord to make known to them His wise, shepherding care.*