

## God With Us Part 2: The Shadow Of Death

(Matthew 1:23 NLT) *"Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him **Immanuel**, which means '**God is with us.**'"*

(Psalm 23:4 ESV) *"Even though I walk through the valley of the **shadow of death.**"*

### Stages Of Grief

#### 1. Shock

#### 2. Sorrow

#### 3. Struggle

#### 4. Surrender

*"I'd rather have all my questions unanswered and walk with God than not walk with God and have all my questions answered." - Rick Warren*

#### 5. Sanctification

*You have to let go of the pain to grab hold of God's promise.*

#### 6. Service

*God will use your experience for good.*

### God With Us

#### ✓ Follow the Shepherd.

(Psalm 23:1-3 ESV) *"The Lord is **my shepherd**; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*

*Your deepest need becomes a gift when it drives you to depend on God.*

✓ **Fight through fear and anxiety.**

*The devil shouts lies. God whispers truth.*

*(Psalm 23:1-3 ESV) "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, **I will fear no evil**, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows."*

✓ **Focus on God's eternal goodness.**

*(Psalm 23:6 ESV) "Surely **goodness and mercy** shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord **forever**."*

*(Isaiah 43:1-5 NLT) "But now, O Jacob, listen to the Lord who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, "Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. When you go through deep waters, **I will be with you**. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. For I am the Lord, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior... You are precious to me. You are honored, and I love you. "Do not be afraid, for **I am with you**."*