

# PBC Growing in Christ

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November 22, 2020

# Class Norms

A large black cross silhouette stands in a field of dry grass under a blue sky with light clouds. The cross is the central focus, with its vertical post and horizontal arms clearly visible against the sky. The field in the foreground is filled with dry, brownish grass, and the sky is a mix of deep blue and lighter, hazy tones with some wispy clouds.

- Place your microphone on mute.
- Use the chat room. Located in the upper right of the screen.
- Interact in the class just raise your hand. The instructor will take you off mute.
- Technology may not always work....please be patient.
- God is always in the midst
- Enjoy the class.

# Growing in Christ

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- Every day is an opportunity to grow in the word.
- Growing in Christ will tackle real life issues, while studying the bible for its answers.
- Examine challenges believers and non-believers face every day.
- Growing in Christ bible study will focus on how Christians face challenges and how the bible addresses these issues.



# Growing in Christ

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*To equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. Ephesians 4:12-13 (NIV)*





# Overcoming Worry

## Psalm 23:1-6

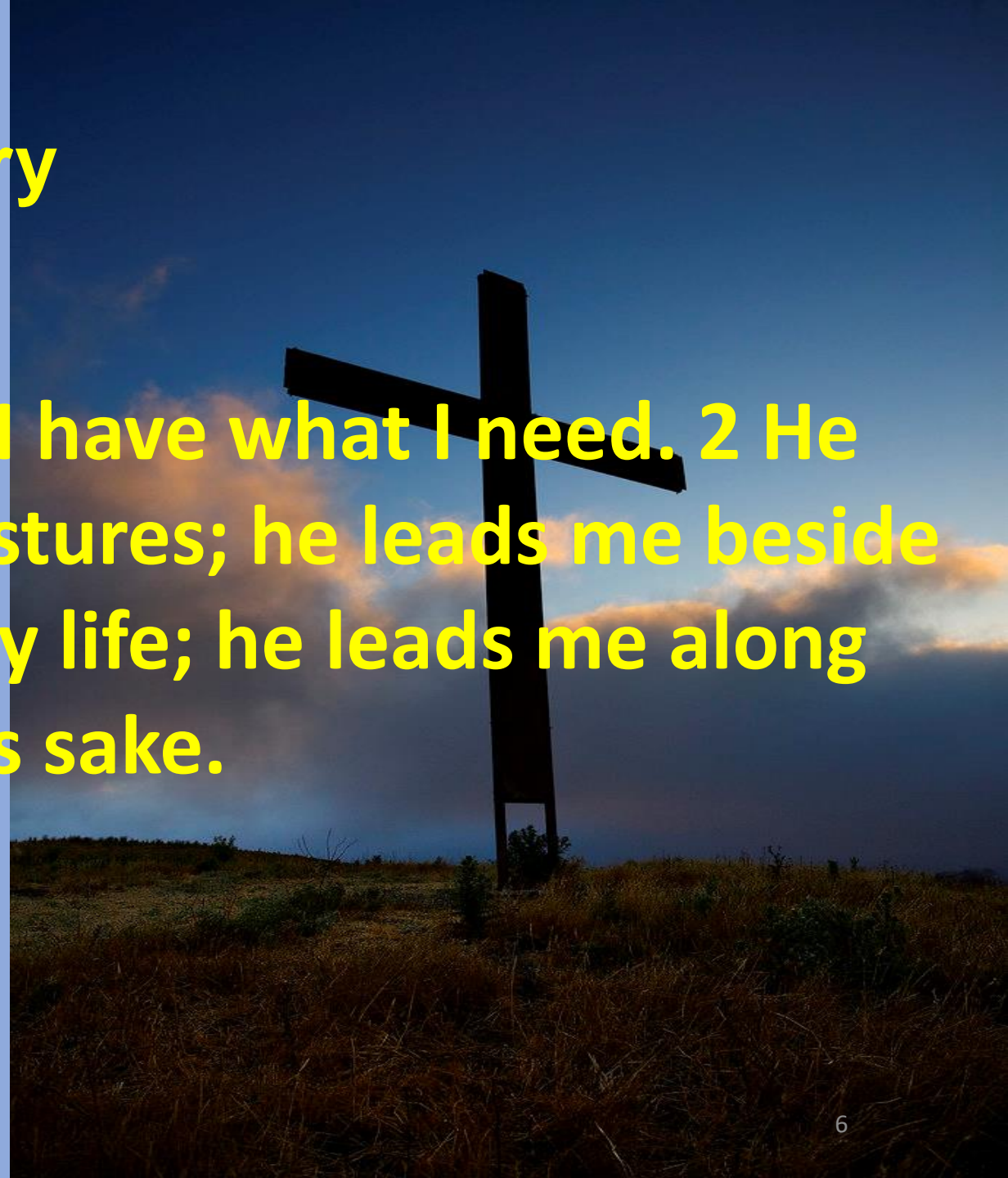
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How would you describe  
a worry-free life?

**Scripture**  
**Overcoming Worry**  
**Psalm 23:1-3**

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**1 The LORD is my shepherd; I have what I need. 2 He lets me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside quiet waters. 3 He renews my life; he leads me along the right paths for his name's sake.**





# Overcoming Worry

## Psalm 23:1-3

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What areas of life do people tend to worry about?

Which of the metaphors in these verses do you find most comforting or appealing?

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# Overcoming Worry

## Psalm 23:1-3

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**He guides us.** When we're just trying to put one foot in front of the other, He is present, guiding us so we will stay on course. But what about when we fail? When we are pulled and tempted to get off course—or even when we wander off course—His presence will guide us back to “the right paths.” Our Shepherd isn't just interested in rescuing us; He also wants to restore us.

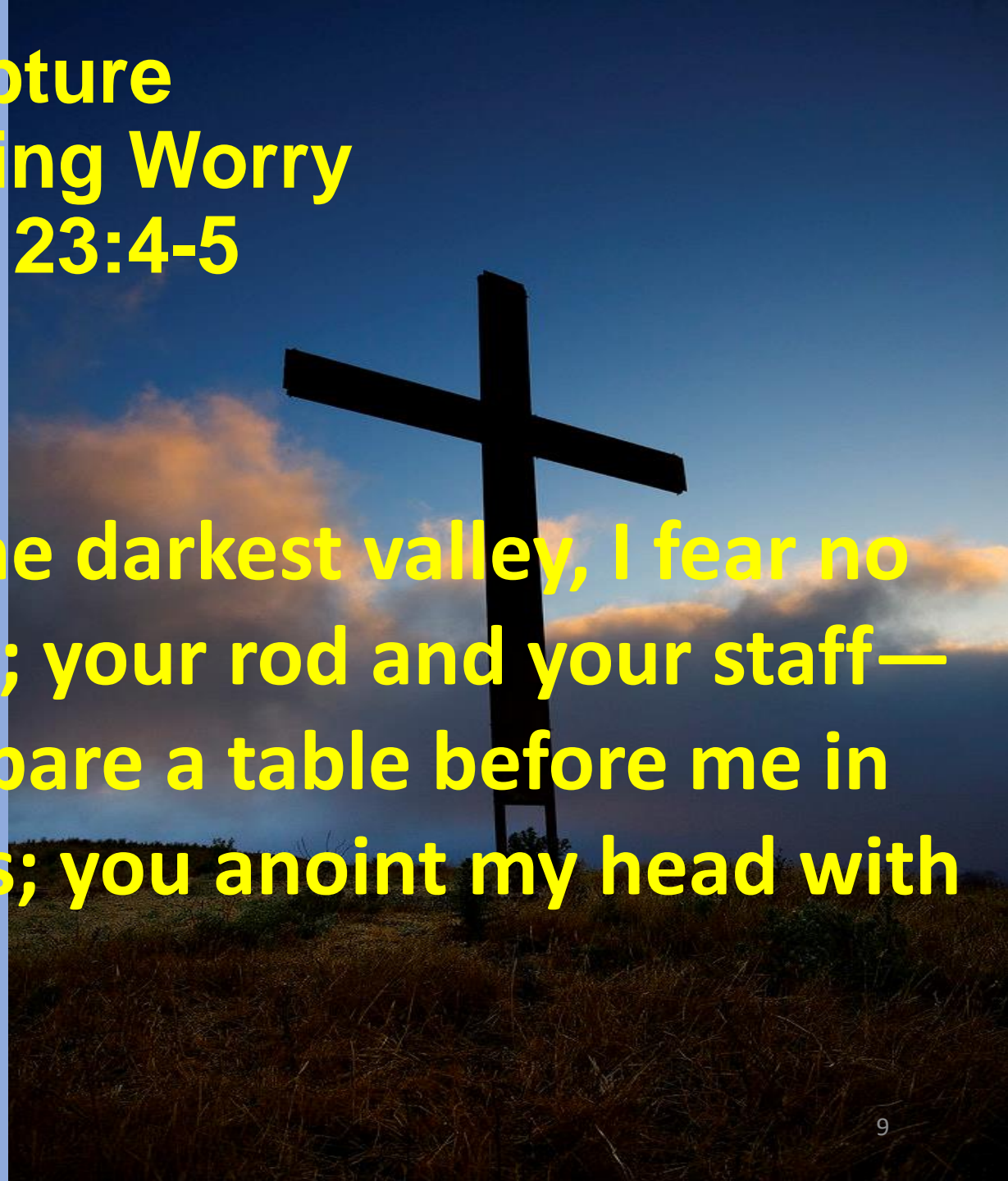
- **He provides for us.** The psalmist wrote, “I have what I need.” In the midst of life's needs, sorrows, and grief, God provides perfectly for us in Christ.
- **He renews us.** With God, we get guidance and provision, but we also get renewal. God's presence brings freedom, joy, and release from our struggles.



**Scripture**  
**Overcoming Worry**  
**Psalm 23:4-5**

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**4 Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**





# Overcoming Worry

## Psalm 23:4-5

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What has helped you trust God through dark valleys?

What are some of the things God has given us that assure us of His presence?



# Overcoming Worry

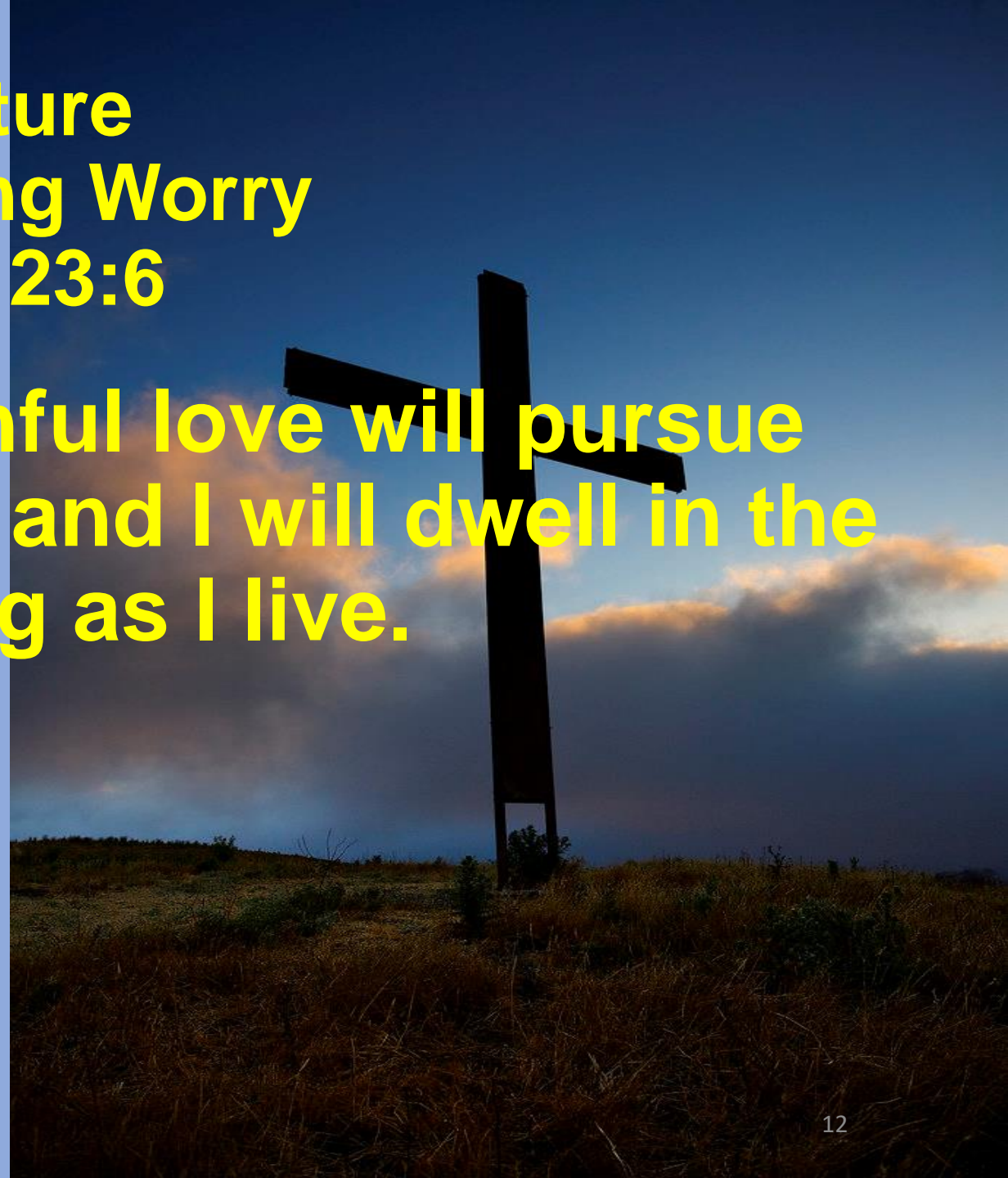
## Psalm 23:4-5

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- **God protects us.** Sometimes we do walk “through the darkest valley.” We imagine ourselves as a defenseless sheep wandering alone at the midnight hour. We know predators are waiting for us to turn the wrong way or lose our focus for just a moment. But when we’re in the darkest valley imaginable, God is protecting us.
- **God gives comfort.** In times of danger and fear, God’s presence gives comfort. We are His sheep. We gain comfort in knowing that God Himself uses His power on our behalf when we face the dark and predatory nature of this world..

**Scripture**  
**Overcoming Worry**  
**Psalm 23:6**

**6 Only goodness and faithful love will pursue me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD as long as I live.**





# Overcoming Worry

## Psalm 23:6

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What are some tangible ways you have experienced God's goodness?

How has God's goodness in the past helped you trust Him in the present?



# Overcoming Worry

## Psalm 23:6

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- When we feel like temptation is stalking us, God is more determined to win our hearts.
  - When sorrows seem to be around every corner, the Lord is present to wipe our tears and win our hearts.
  - When life is just plain hard, and we don't know if we can overcome the pain, the Shepherd is present to guide us toward His love to win our hearts.
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# GROWING IN CHRIST IN ACTION

NOVEMBER 29, 2020

- **Memorize God's Word.** As a safeguard against worry, memorize **Philippians 4:6-7**: “Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”
- **Recall God's provision.** Daily reflection on the topic of joy
- **Dates:** November 29-December 5
- **Bible Study link:**  
<https://bible.com/p/35593788/461d171824262c1f33822f90649f9ff1>



# Final thoughts about Overcoming Worry

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- A shepherd does more than just keep the sheep out of trouble; he also provides for their needs.
- Only His presence will lead us to places of renewal.
- He knows what we need, and when we decide to stop struggling and start trusting, we experience relief.
- Even for those who think they are “natural-born worriers,” an antidote is available: trust in God. He knows what we need, and when we decide to stop struggling and start trusting Him, we experience relief.





# Growing in Christ Preparation for learning

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Bible.com

- Daily reflection on the topic of joy
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# Resources

- **BIBLE-Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth**
- **[Bible.com](http://Bible.com)**



Next Week: December 6, 2020  
**Redirecting Anger**

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Psalm 35:1-3,13-18

When you were a kid, what  
would make you really angry?



# God Bless You!

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