

Dear K.C.P.D family,

I hope this devotional finds you doing well. I wanted to share a staple scripture in my life. **Psalm 23:1, 4** — “The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.” “Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me.”

Psalm 23 speaks to people who carry responsibility, face uncertainty, and walk into hard places because duty calls. That makes it a meaningful passage for law enforcement. Officers often enter scenes where others are afraid, confused, angry, or hurting. In those moments, this psalm reminds us that courage does not come from pretending danger is not real. Courage comes from knowing we do not walk alone.

“The LORD is my shepherd” is a statement of trust. A shepherd guides, protects, provides, and restores. For police officers and department personnel, the work can drain the mind, body, and spirit. Calls may end, reports may be filed, and shifts may change, but the weight of what was seen and heard can remain. Psalm 23 offers a promise: God restores the soul. He brings steadiness when the day has been chaotic, wisdom when decisions are difficult, and peace when the heart is tired.

The psalm does not say we will avoid every valley. It says, “I walk through” the valley. The valley is not the destination. It is a place we pass through with the presence of God beside us. For every officer on patrol, every dispatcher answering the next call, every supervisor carrying responsibility, every family member waiting at home, and every chaplain offering care, this is the hope: the Shepherd is near. Here are some things to remember with each day the Lord has blessed you with:

1. **Begin each shift with trust:** Ask God for wisdom, patience, protection, and compassion.
2. **Remember your limits:** You are called to serve faithfully, but you are not called to carry every burden alone.
3. **Seek restoration:** Make room for healthy rest, honest conversation, prayer, and support after difficult calls.
4. **Serve with presence:** As God walks with you, be a steady presence for those experiencing fear, grief, or crisis.
5. **Hold onto hope:** The valley is real, but so is God’s goodness and mercy.

Respectfully submitted,

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