***Senior Sunday***

**May 21, 2023**

**Overarching Theme:** 2023 – Living the Dream

**Instructions:**

When using this material as teacher, feel free to pick and choose the point you want to emphasis in the lesson. The format of the curriculum is designed to have an abundance of information in which to refer as desired.

**Core Point: 2023 can be a year of living the dream of faithful discipleship as we take a next step forward in following Jesus Christ.**

**Reflect on this Scripture: Psalm 23 (NRSV)**

*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 right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I 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. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.*

**Questions to Ponder for Accountability in the Group:**

1. Allowing God to lead us in our path like a shepherd means that we have to release the ability for us as individuals to control our lives. What are those areas that are harder to release control of?
2. From an outside perspective it may be difficult to understand how a rod and a staff could protect someone or something from an attack of any kind. How can we find faith in knowing that some of the smallest things could bring the biggest sense of protection to our life?
3. This Psalm references the preparing of a table in front of enemies. Christ calls us to reconcile with those that we are at opposition with. What does it mean in your life to invite those enemies to the table rather than keeping them from it?
4. Dwelling in the house of the Lord our entire life points to us living in the Kingdom of God both during our earthly life and our afterlife. How are you able to see the Kingdom of God present in your earthly life today, rather than waiting for the afterlife?

**Activity for the Life of a Disciple:**

* 1. Remember to find encouragement for the day by reading the daily devotional from FUMCC.
	2. Ponder and pray on this scripture this week: **Psalm 27:6**

*Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.*