# Yesterday, today, forever

A collection of devotions on Psalm 23, The Lord's prayer, Lent and Advent

Linda Barclay Rebecca Forbes



#### Engaging with Faith for life

*Faith for life* is a collection of interactive, tailored products that help people engage with the Bible in ways that are appropriate and meaningful to them.

The books can be used independently or with another person. Whether your relationship is as family member, friend, pastoral carer, staff member, or volunteer—your company and the shared experience of being together is invaluable. When together, take your time as you go through the devotions. Leave pauses to allow for responses and for silence. It might also be helpful to repeat a phrase or thought.

When engaging with the resources it's important to think about the environment around you. Consider the background noise, temperature, lighting and location so that the surroundings are comfortable.

The activities in the resources may prompt a variety of feelings or emotions. Connecting to the Bible can trigger memories of significant events or people from the past. It's important to take the opportunity to talk about or reflect on these spiritual experiences.

The person you are with may need your sympathy, your listening ear and the assurance that you have heard and understood them. If the person you are with does not want to participate in the activity, leave it until another time.

We are motivated by the belief that people living with dementia may not only have a history of faith, but a vibrant faith today and a living hope for the future. This means that by the grace of God they are continuing to grow and be shaped as Christians, regardless of the changes dementia brings.

## For more information on engaging with the Faith for life resources at www.hammond.com.au/shop/faith-for-life

Sample extract (© HammondCare) Full text for sale at: Hammondcare.com.au/Shop Yesterday, today, forever is a collection of devotions on Psalm 23, The Lord's prayer, Lent and Advent.

The series of devotions are illustrated, offering reflection on the theme. For each page you can choose from one or all of these devotional activities, or add your own:



### Read aloud from the Bible



Sing or listen to a hymn



Pray on your own or with someone

# Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

This is a series of five devotions based on Psalm 23. The devotions follow the Psalm, offering reflections on its themes.



You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



## The Lord is my shepherd

Let's spend some time reflecting on Psalm 23. These words remind us that just as a shepherd watches over the sheep in their care, so our Lord watches over and cares for us.

## **Psalm 23:1**

The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

## Prayer

Lord Jesus, thank you that you truly are the Good Shepherd. You know your sheep and loved them so much that you laid down your life for them. Thank you for protecting us and providing for all our needs. Amen.