

December 13, 2022

[Ezekiel 34:11-31](#)

During my junior year of college, I spent a semester studying in the UK. It was my first time in Europe and before settling in London we spent a few weeks traveling throughout Britain. After years of admiring movies and art set in the English countryside, I was beyond excited to be seeing the rolling hills and picturesque fields of sheep in person. I remember clearly the first time I got to walk in one of those picturesque fields and thinking, "This is absolutely beautiful but, wow, this really smells...and there is SO much poop." Needless to say, my idealized version of the scene got a dose of reality.

Reading this passage, I am reminded that we need God as our shepherd because life, like those fields, is really messy. We strive in vain to create an idealized life for ourselves but what we need is to trust God, our shepherd, as he navigates us through the challenges, struggles, and joys of life.

Jane Wilkinson