

Calling Under-Shepherds to Shepherd 1 Ptr. 5:1-4



Main Scripture: 1 Peter 4:19-5:5 (Acts 20:17-38, Ps. 23)

Main Theme: To Protect & Serve

Main Points: 1.) *There is only one CHIEF (Over) Shepherd (1 Ptr. 2:25)*
(despite others we may call *Lead* or *Senior Pastor*)

2.) *We're all called to have the HEART of our Shepherd (Jn. 10:11-18)*
(even if we don't have the *TITLE* of shepherd)

3.) *Even the BEST of men are MEN at best. (Ja. 3:2, Matt. 7:16-20, 1 Jn. 1:6-10)*
(Every person is either their best *IN Christ* or their worst in *THEMSELVES.*)

Objection: How does this apply to me, if I'm not an elder (and never plan on being one)?

1.) General (2 Tim. 3:16-17) 2.) Specific (1 Tim. 3:2-7) 3.) Personal (1 Tim. 3:14-16)

Quest: How can we train so all are "...able to teach"? (Heb. 6:11-14)

Though the *elder* position is reserved for men, *shepherding* isn't. Several e.g. of biblical *shepherdesses*.

Objection: What about the warnings/limitations of becoming a teacher? (Matt. 23:8, Ja. 3:1, 1 Jn. 2:27)

P.R.O.C.O.M/M.A.S.

Pray	Read	Observe	Context
Original (Writer & Readers)	Meta-narrative/ (Central Interpretive) Motif	Application (Specific/Personal/Accountable)	Share

Prelude: Understanding it in its proper context "So..." (1 Ptr. 4:17-19)

suffer(ing) x14 *trial(s)* x2 *God* x39

Peter addresses the entire flock about their leaders in the context of *suffering & trials*. (Matt. 26:30-35)

I.) The UNDER-Shepherds:

1. Plurality of (v 5:1a)

Every N.T. writer addresses elders (*plural*) when writing to/about a local church (*singular*) body.
(Acts 4:8, 14:23, 15:2, 4, 22, 16:4, 20:17, 21:18, 1 Tim. 4:14, 5:17, Ti. 1:5-9, Eph. 4:11, Phil. 1:1, Heb. 13:7, 17, Ja. 5:14, 1 Ptr. 5:1)

“Plurality” is more than #s, it’s also about *EQUITY*. (v 5:1b)

Peter identifies himself as “*a fellow elder*”, not as a Senior Pastor, Super elder or Pope.

There is *HIERARCHY* in the local church; Jesus is *HEAD* over His church (Eph. 1:22, 5:23, 1 Ptr. 2:25)

2. Definition of (v 5:1, 2a, Acts 20:19)

Peter uses multiple terms; *elder* (lit. Presbytery) > *shepherd(ing)* (lit. Pastor) > *Overseer* (lit. Bishop = Guardian)
All of these terms are used to describe the same person/position.

3. Kinds of (v 5:2b-3)

Man-made v. God-made	<i>not under compulsion,</i>	<i>but willingly (as God would have you)</i>
Self-centered v. Christ-centered	<i>not for shameful gain,</i>	<i>but eagerly</i>
Flesh-led v. Spirit-led	<i>not domineering...</i>	<i>but being examples to the flock (in your charge)</i>

II.) The FLOCK:

1. Imitators (v 5:3b, 1 Cor. 11:1)

Oscar Wilde said, “*Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery...*” but many don’t know the rest of his quote,
...that mediocrity can pay to greatness.”

2. Emulators of (1 Jn. 2:18-25, Matt. 13:24-30, 25:31-34)

Within every flock are also *GOATS*; those who believe they’re part of the flock but don’t remain.

3. Infiltrators (Acts 20:29-30, Matt. 7:13, Jn. 10:12-13)

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III.) The OVER-Shepherd:

1. OUR Owner (Ps 95:7, Ps 100:3)

2. OUR Watcher (1 Ptr. 2:24-25)

3. OUR Reward(er) (Ps 23)