**Intro: 1 Peter 5 –How to be a good Shepherd**

* 1 Peter 5 Peter closes this letter with three important admonitions to obey if the church were to glorify God in their difficult experience!
* Go is calling the leaders at the church to be at their best. Elders and deacons to lead. 1 Tim. 3.
* Elder refers to the maturity of the officers.
* Bishop refers to the responsibility of the officers.
* Pastor is a Shepherd, another title for the same office. Eph. 4:11
* The church ordained their pastors. Acts 14:23
* The church ordained their deacons Acts 6:3

Let us learn what we should look for in a good Shepherd and how we can be a good example to God’s flock!

### 5 Truths for God’s Children to Obey!

1. **A Loving concern for God’s Sheep [1Peter 5:2-3]**
* Sheep are clean animals unlike dogs and pigs. 2 Peter 2:20-22
* Sheep tend to flock together.
* Sheep can wonder away if they do not follow the shepherd.
* Sheep are defenseless for the most part and the shepherd’s protection.Ps. 23:4
* Sheep are very useful animals
* The Jewish Shepherds tended their sheep. Not costly meat. But for wool, milk and lambs. God’s people must be useful to the Him and certainly reproduce.
* Sheep were used for a sacrifice! So we ought to be “living sacrifice” doing the will of God.
* **A Loving shepherd feeds the flock – V2**
* A shepherd led the sheep to green pasture to green pasture.
* The shepherd always went before the flock, checking for snakes, pits, poisons plants and dangerous animals.
* Somethings a Shepherd had to seek a wayward sheep. Jesus made time for individual [ Nicodemus-John 3 and the women at the well-John 4 ]
* It is not easy being a faithful shepherd of God’s sheep.
* It is a task that never ends and takes supernatural power from the Lord to done correctly!

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* It is not easy being a faithful shepherd of God’s sheep.
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* We love the sheep because it is God’s sheep precious by His blood.
* Act 20:28 “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
* Don’t be lazy- Eph. 6:6 “Not with eye service, as men pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart;
* A Loving Shepherd has a ready Mind! Ready is “Eager” – Paul said this in Rom 1:15 – That he was ready or eager to preach the gospel! V3
* This is the difference between a true shepherd and a hireling. One does service because they are paid and the other does it for a love for the sheep!
1. **A Desire to please Christ Alone [1Peter 5:4]**
* Our Hope is Christ!
* Christ is coming again, this is our Encouragement in Suffering. 1 Peter 1:7-8
* Christ is Our Motivation for faithful service. If we try to please ourselves and please others we will have a disappointing and difficult ministry.
* Someone said to a pastor after the service, it must be hard to keep all the people happy? I don’t even try to keep them happy, said the pastor with a smile! I try to please the Lord and I let Him take care of the rest.
* The good shepherd takes care of the flock he doesn’t do everything to please the flock.
* Jesus Christ is the Good Shephard- He died for the sheep. John 10:11 “I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.
* The great shepherd Heb. 13:20-21
* Chief Shepherd who comes back for His sheep. 1Peter 5:4
* AS chief shepherd He alone can access man’s ministry and give him a proper reward.
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