

Good Marriage = Equally Yoked





A Yoke

Unequal Yokes Don't Work!





"You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together." (Deut 22:10) NASU

Shepherding is a spiritual work (a "yoke to bear")



To do effectively it takes team work.





TEAMWORK

Together Each Achieves More





Three Topics:

- Qualifications of church officer's wives.
- Responsibilities of the congregation towards the shepherds.
- >Appointment process



- Grave = "prudent, dignified, serious minded, not giddy."
- Not a Slanderer = "Not speaking evil of others."



- Sober = "controls herself, able to exercise good judgment, not rash or flippant."
 - Faithful in all things (totally trustworthy).



What is the sheep's attitude to be toward the shepherds?

- Respectful, submissive, obedient
 - -Heb 13:17 "Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls.."
- In Remembrance . . .
 - -Heb 13:7 "Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you" (1 Tim 5:17).

What is the sheep's attitude to be toward its shepherds?

- In Step . . .willing to follow their lead and "faith."
 - -Heb 13:7b "Whose faith you follow (imitate)" (NKJ)
 - I Cor 11:1 "Be ye imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ."



What is the sheep's attitude to be toward its shepherds?

Give them <u>honor/double honor</u>

–I Tim 5:17 "The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor; especially those whose work is preaching and teaching."



What is the sheep's attitude to be toward the shepherds?

- Recognize and esteem highly in love.
 - -1 Thess 5:12-13 "And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, 13 and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake."

What is the sheep's attitude to be toward its shepherds?

- Show <u>appreciation</u> I Thess
 5:12a
 - -"But we request of you, brethren, that you <u>appreciate</u> those who diligently labor among you." NAS
- Know them!
 - -I Thess 5:12 "Urge you to get to know them."

Appointment and Selection Process:

- ➤ Not much said, so most of this is a matter of expediency.
- Some insights provided by the selection process in Acts 6.
 - > "Look ye out among yourselves" (vs 3a).
 - Make sure they are qualified (vs 3b).
 - Appoint them to their work officially with prayer (vs 6).



Appointment and Selection Process:

- ➤ Apostles and evangelists appointed elders (Acts 14:23, Titus 1:5).
 - Done with "prayer and fasting."
 - ➤ No example of elders appointing elders, or elder's appointing themselves.
 - ➤ Paul told Timothy to teach and appoint men to be elders where elders were already present (See Acts 20:17).



Appointment and Selection Process:

- Three step process:
 - Inquire and announce who among us has the desire.
 - Teach about the Biblical qualifications.
 - Officially put the name(s) up for consideration and allow a three-week period for any scriptural objections.



Peter's admonition: I Peter 5:2-4

4 And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory!" (NASU)

