

To be Successful...

- PROPER VISION
- PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT
- **GOOD LEADERSHIP**
- MAINTAIN UNITY
- PERSEVERENCE



Kirkland's Vision Statement

“At Kirkland we are people redeemed by Christ’s blood,/ who seek to **worship** God reverently in truth,/ who glorify God through our unconditional love,/ caring and service of **one-another**./ We are **growing** in knowledge of truth/ and in joy and commitment,/ **sharing** our hope with others/ that God’s light is reflected in our lives.”

Amen

Shepherding Series!

Lesson 1: The importance of good leadership and the elder's work 5/15

Lesson 2: General Qualifications: His Character 5/22

Lesson 3: His Reputation 5/29

Lesson 4: Special Qualifications 6/5

Lesson 5: Wrap up (The congregation's responsibility to the shepherds) 6/12



A silhouette of a pregnant woman is shown in profile on the right side of the image, facing left. She is holding her belly. The background is a bright, warm light coming from a window with blinds, creating a soft glow. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

SANCTITY
OF

Life

Part one



VBS

July 24th – 28th

9:30am – 12:30pm

FOR AGES

3-13

BUILDING ON THE



MAY 15|SUN PM

The Importance and Role of Shepherding



LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM ANCIENT ISRAEL

The nation of Israel was
occasionally worse than it's kings
but *it was never better than its kings!*



The Importance of the right kind of Leadership

“No church will ever rise above the standard set by it’s leaders.”



David's Spiritual Leadership

“So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them with his skillful hands” (Ps 78:70 ff).



Spiritual Israel today has similar challenges

- Leadership crisis = confusion, division and a lack of growth!
 - 1 Kings 22:17 "I saw all Israel scattered on the mountains, like sheep which have no shepherd, they have no master (one to lead them)." NASU



Terrible Shortage of Qualified Shepherds

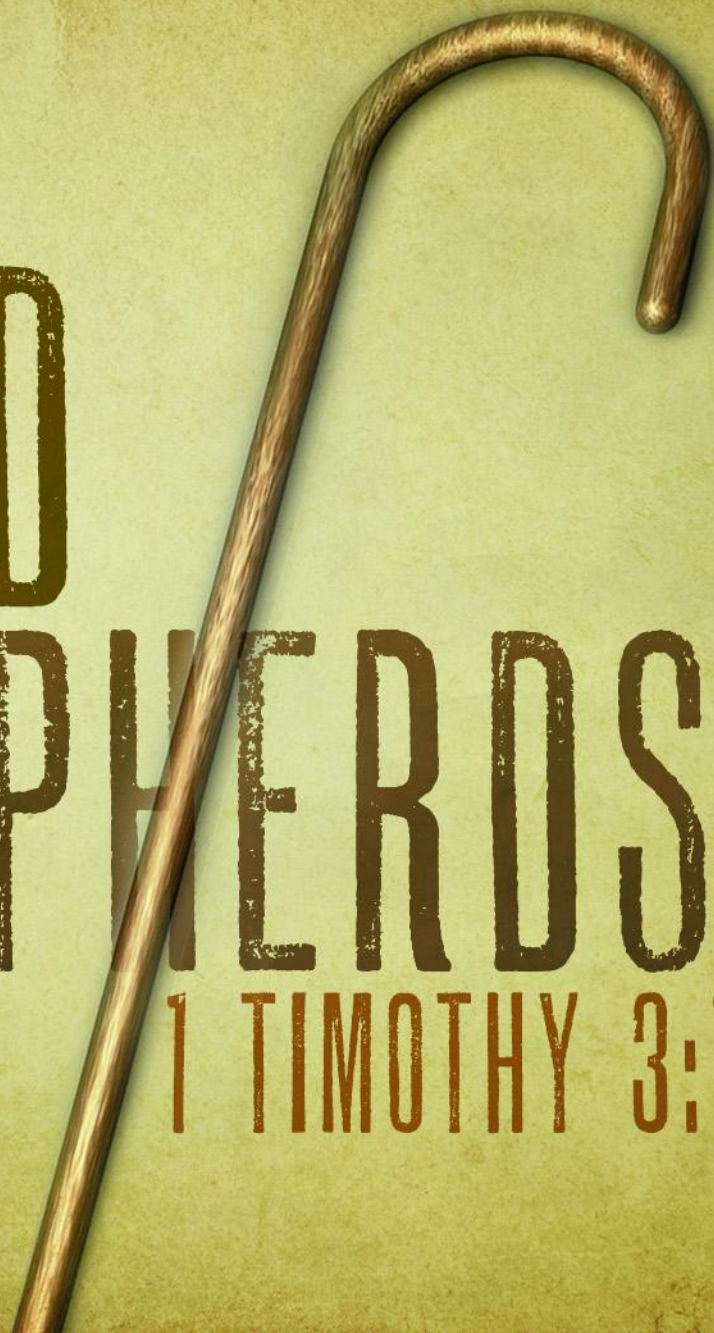
**SHEEP WITH OUT A
SHEPHERD**



**2/3 Congregations lack
Shepherds!**

WE NEED
MORE SHEPHERDS

1 TIMOTHY 3:1-7



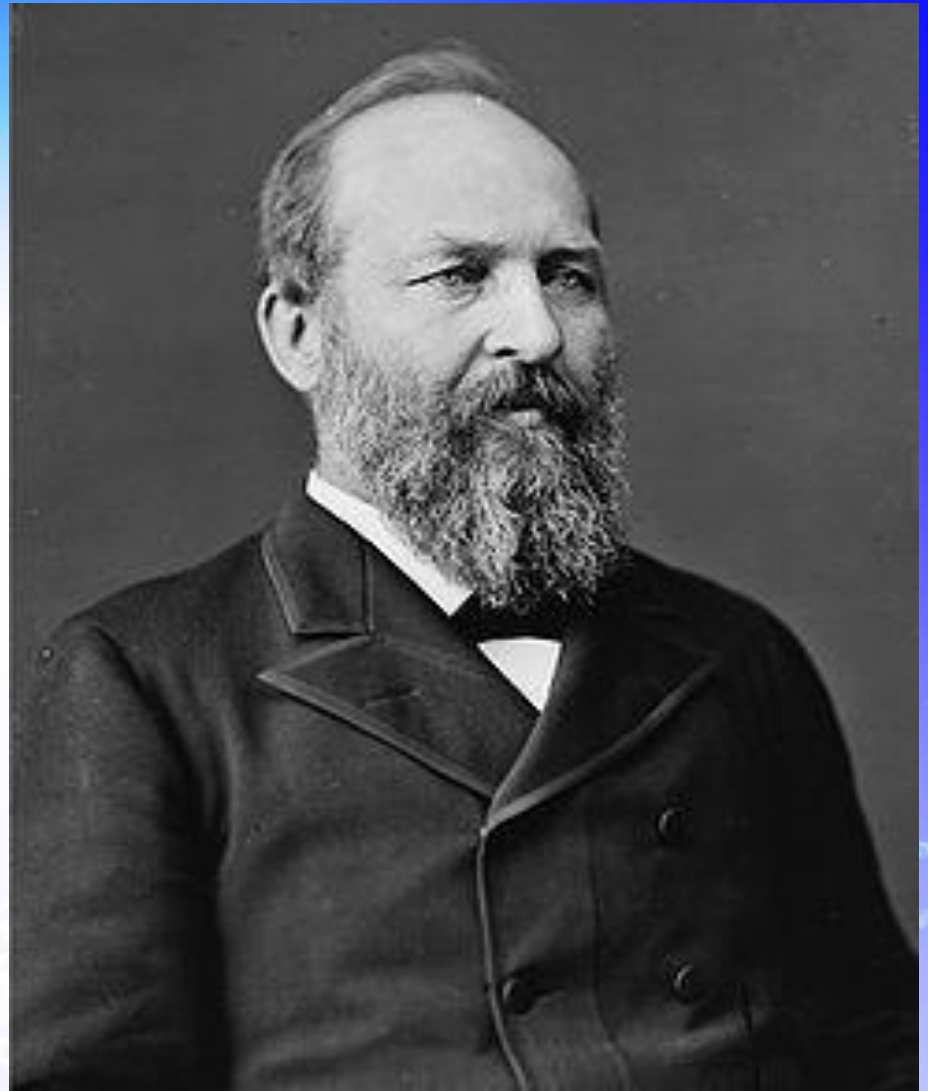


I am not afraid of an army of lions
led by a **sheep**; I am afraid of
an army of sheep led by a **lion**.

— *Alexander the Great*

James A. Garfield

“I now must resign as an elder; in so doing, I am stepping down from the highest possible office, in order to accept the Presidency of the United States.”



1831 - 1881



Thesis:

- Three common pitfalls to avoid
- The organizational structure
- Six Bible words which describe the work of a shepherd.



Three Pitfalls to Avoid:

- **Too *passive*.**

- It is a time consuming work (I Tim 3:1).

- **Glorified deacons.**

- Not primarily “business managers”
but **SPIRITUAL FAITH LEADERS!**



Primary work = *Spiritual*

- Heb 13:17 “Obey those who rule over you, for they **watch out for your souls.**”
- Acts 6 Seven men were selected so that the spiritual work of **“prayer and ministry of the word”** was not neglected.



Three Pitfalls to Avoid:

- **Lack of Vision**

- Elders must do more than “**keep house.**”
- *Those who fail to plan, plan to fail!*



God's Organizational Structure

- **No formal universal church structure.**
 - Made up of *local independent congregations.*



God's Organizational Structure

- What about each **local church**?
 - “To all the **saints** in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the **overseers** and **deacons**” (Phil 1: 1-2). NASU



God's Organizational Structure

- What about each **local church**?
 - “For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders (Titus 1:5).” NASU

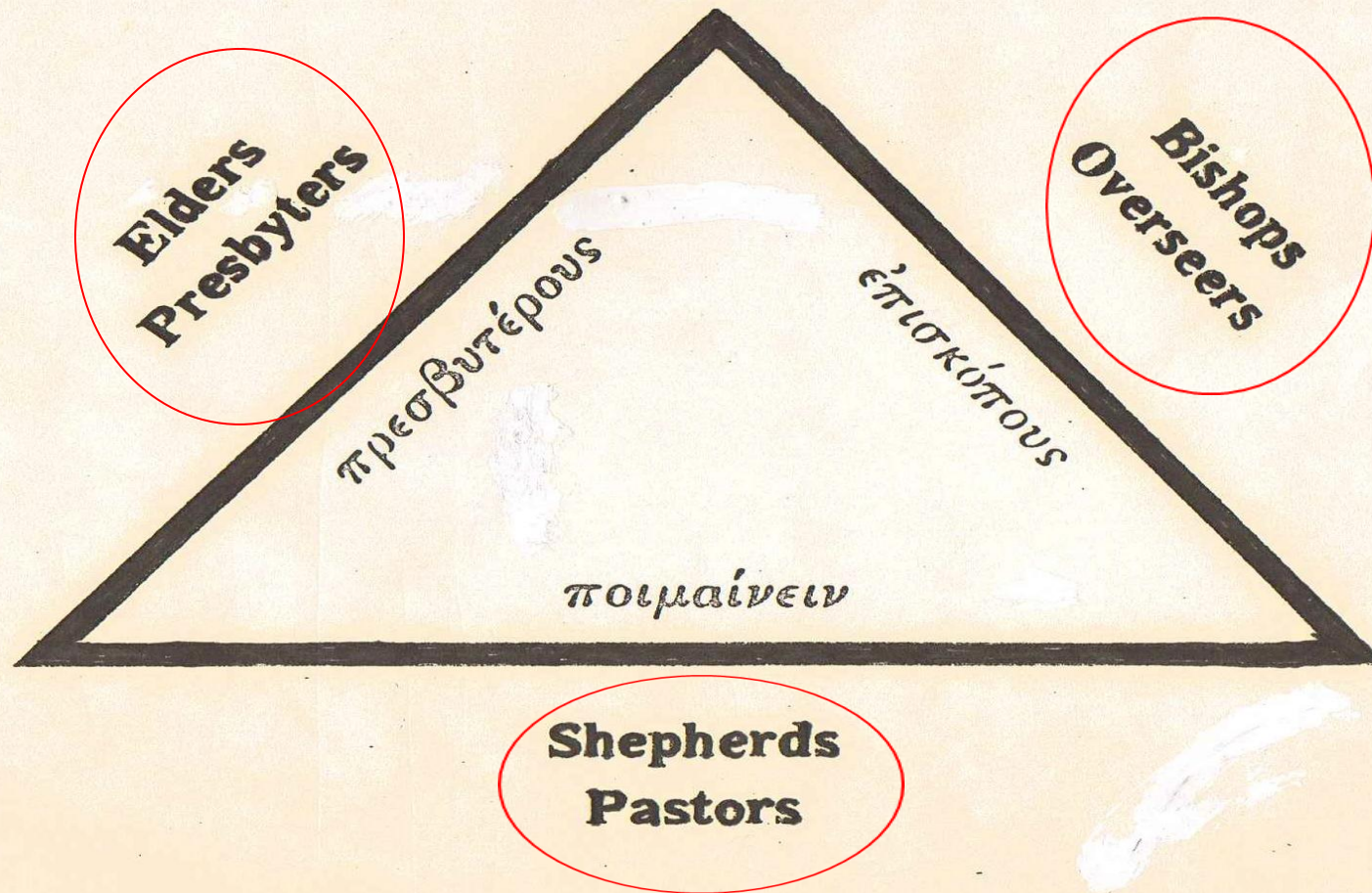


God's Leadership Style

- **Moldable, Flexible, Cooperative**
 - *Plurality* of elders. No one is chief (I Pet 5:1-4).



The Work of Elders



The Work of Elders

- Elders or Presbyters

- Acts 20: 17 “Called to him the elders of church.”

- I Tim 4:14 “Neglect not the gift that was given you with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.”



The Work of Overseers

- Bishops or Overseers:

- Acts 20: 28 “The HS hath made you overseers.” ASV “Bishops”
- I Tim 3:1 “If anyone desires the office of a bishop, he desires a *good work*.”



The Work of Shepherds

- Pastors or Shepherds:

- “He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers” (Eph 4:11).



The Work of Elders

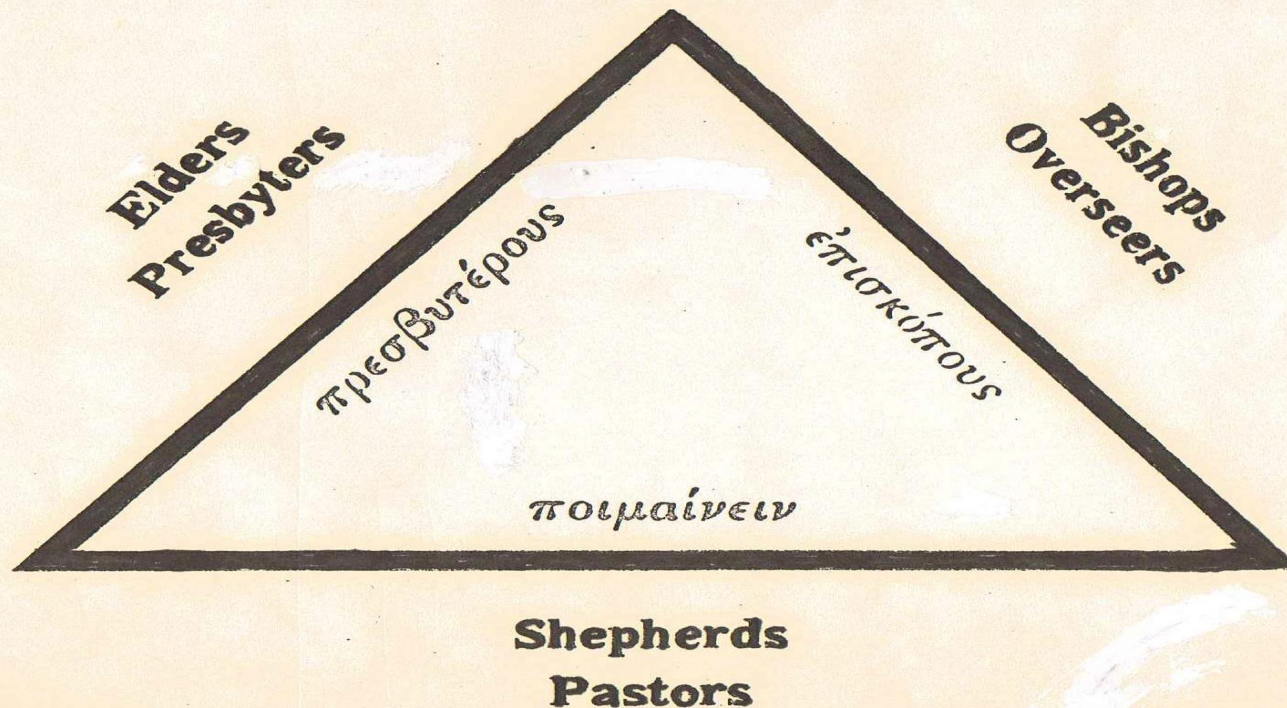
- Pastors or Shepherds:

- “He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers” (Eph 4:11).
- “Tend (shepherd) the flock *among you*” (1 Peter 5:2).



The Work of Elders

ALL SIX = SAME OFFICE.



Elders = Overseers = Pastor

- From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called to him the **elders** of the church (Acts 20: 17).
- 28 "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you **overseers**, to **shepherd** the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."



The Work of Elders

- Elders or Presbyters

- Def: “An **older** man, advanced in life, indicating **maturity of spiritual experience.**”



The Work of Elders

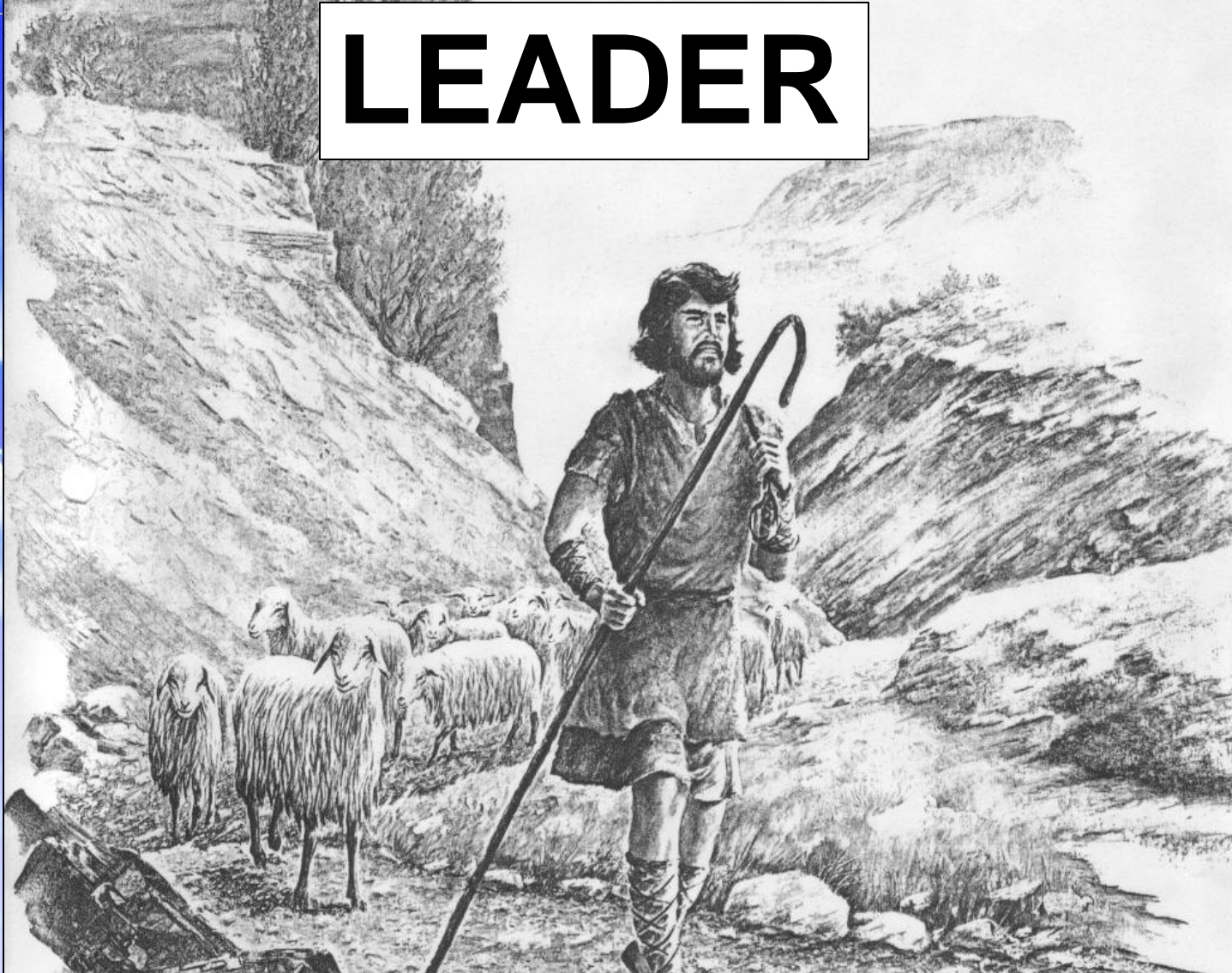
- What is their first role/duty?

Lead!

- Literally: “Stands in front and guides as an example.”
- *Example* = “Make an impression,” or “set the mold.”



LEADER



“Being examples to the flock”
(I Peter 5:3)

The Work of Bishops/Overseers

- Bishops or Overseers:

- Def: “Look over.” “Someone who is to superintend.”
- Thayer – “Seeing that the work of the Lord gets done in the way the Lord intends.”



The Work of Bishops/Overseers

- Bishops or Overseers:

- Shepherd the flock of God among you, *exercising oversight* (I Peter 5:2).
- “Let the elders who **rule well** be counted worthy” (I Tim 5:17).



Non-domineering *Non-competitive*

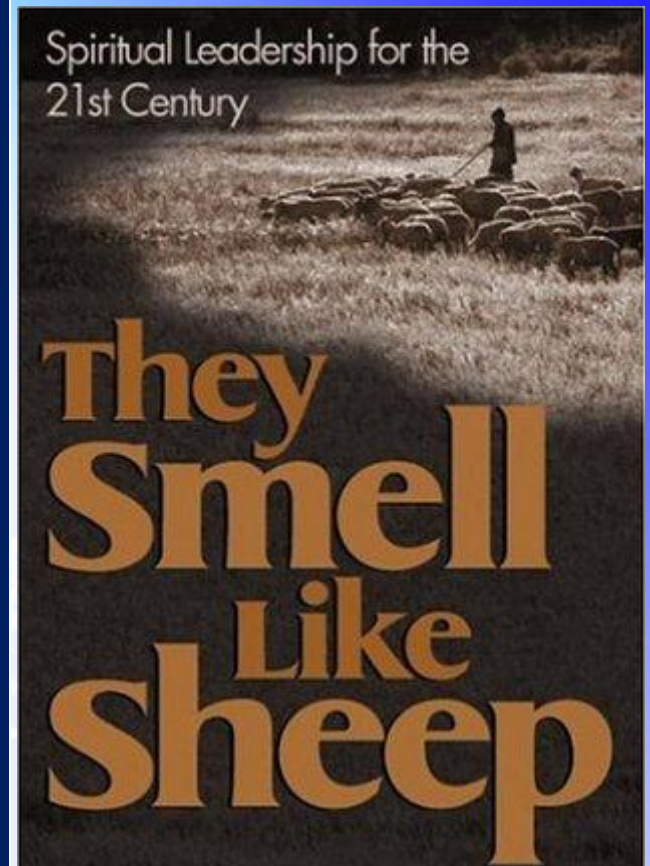
- I Peter 5:2-3 “Not **lording it over** those allotted to your charge.”
 - Not ***dogmatic*** or ***power centered***.



The Work of Shepherds

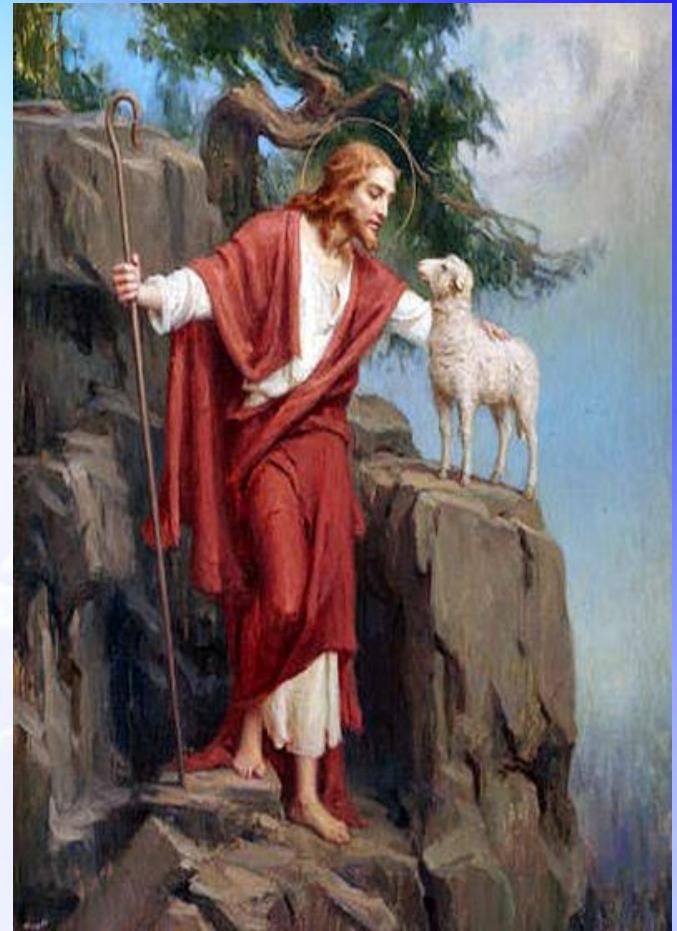
- Pastors or Shepherds

- Def: “One who tends people, feeds, guides. Involves *tender care* and diligent superintendence.”
- It is not primarily an *administrative function*.



God wants Caring Pastors

- The work is about **caring** for people and addressing their needs.
 - “Watch out for your **souls** for which they must give an account” (Heb 13: 17).



God wants Caring Pastors

- Titus 1:9 “**Exhort** them in sound (healthy) doctrine.”
 - An *Exhorter/Encourager!*



Exhorter/Caring/Sympathetic



**“Lovest thou me?”
“Feed my sheep” (Jn 21:16)!**

God's Leadership Style

- Unwavering when it comes to truth
“Convict the gainsayer” (Titus 1:9).
- Acts 20:28ff “I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock, and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. 31 ***Therefore be on guard (alert).***”

Protector



**“The good shepherd giveth his life
for the sheep.” (John 10:11)**

WE NEED
MORE SHEPHERDS

1 TIMOTHY 3:1-7

