



The Importance and Role of Shepherding

INTERACTIVE OUTLINE

Sunday Morning: 10:30 am

Scripture Reading: I Peter 5:1-4

May 15, 2022

Speaker: Brent Hunter

Intro: No church will ever rise above the standard set by its **leaders**.

I. THREE COMMON PITFALLS TO AVOID.

- A. Too *passive*. See it as a title, an office, instead of a work (I Tim 3:1).
- B. *Glorified deacons*. Must be soul oriented dedicated to the s_____.
- C. Lack of *vision*. Failure to lead and plan for the future.

II. THE BIBLE GIVES A SIMPLE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- A. No universal organization; just local i_____ congregations.
- B. Consists of "elders (bishops), deacons, members (saints)" (Phil 1:1).

III. BIBLE WORDS USED TO DESCRIBE THE SAME OFFICE.

- A. E_____ or presbytery (Acts 20:17).
- B. Bishops or overseers (Acts 20:28, I Tim 3:1).
- C. Pastors or s_____ (Eph 4:11, I Peter 5:2).
- D. All six English words are referring to the same office (Acts 20:17: 28, Titus 1:4-7, I Peter 5:1-4).

IV. THREE DESCRIPTORS WHICH TELL US ABOUT THE WORK.

- A. **Elder**: "An older man, advanced in life, indicating spiritual maturity."
 - 1. This maturity allows them to be an e_____ to the flock (Peter 5: 1-3). A spiritual role model is the key.
- B. **Overseer**: Lit. "Look over." "Someone who superintends, looks out for."
 - 1. "Let the elders who r_____ well be honored" (I Tim 5:17).
 - 2. Rule: "To stand before, to lead, guide, attend to the needs."
 - 3. One cannot do this without leading.
- C. **Shepherd**: "One who tends, feeds, and guides flocks diligently."
 - 1. *Exhorter*, tender care, sympathetic. Watch out for one's s_____.
 - 2. *Protect* the flock from false teaching (Acts 20:28, Titus 1:9).

Conclusion: Think about these qualities and the work required as we look to the future.

Notes:

SCRAMBLED ANSWERS:

rule	soul
example	shepherds
independent	spiritual
Elders	