

**Series "Living God Gives A Living Hope"  
"Shepherding God's Flock"  
1 Peter 5:1-4  
Study-19**

- 1 Peter 5:1-4 – The Conduct Of The Church Leaders.**
- 1 Peter 5:5-9 – The Counsel To All Members.**
- 1 Peter 5:10-11 – The Final Word For The Suffering.**
- 1 Peter 5:12-14 – The Closing Words.**

**Ephesians 4:11-13**

- 1 Peter 3:13-5:14 – God's Grace And Suffering.**

**Thought Of The Passage:** "God's Leaders Are In Fellowship With Him; Loving And Caring For His People With The Goal Of Pleasing Him."

- 1. Verse 1 – A Shepherd Must Be In Christ**
- 2. Verses 2-3 – A Shepherd Must Love & Care**
- 3. Verse 4 – A Shepherd Must Want To Please Christ**

**1. Verse 1 – A Shepherd Must Be In Christ:**

1 Peter 5:1 – "Therefore," – or "So;" gives the Context – Peter was speaking about suffering according to God's will – 1 Peter 4:19.

"I exhort" – means to "call near, warn, counsel and encourage" – "the elders among you," – Times of persecution demand that God's people have adequate spiritual leadership.

"the elders among you," – The words "Elder" and "Bishop" refer to the same office, Acts 20:17, 28. The word "Bishop" is often translated "Overseer." 1 Peter 5:2 – "exercising oversight,"

This title is applied to Jesus Christ – 1 Peter 2:25.

"Elder" – speaks of "the maturity, and dignity of the officer."

"Elder, Bishop, Overseer, Pastor" – refer to the same office and individual. The word "Pastor," which means "Shepherd," is another title for this same office – Ephesians 4:11.

Bishop – is a title; Pastor – refers to the task of shepherding.

Elders were appointed to office – Acts 14:23, where the verb "ordain" means "to appoint by the raising of hands."

1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4

“as your fellow elder” – Peter was an apostle but saw himself as a fellow pastor. The Apostle John said the same – 2 John 1; 3 John 1.

Acts 2:40-41

Beware Of The Pride Of Position: Peter slept when he should have been praying – Matthew 26:40. Peter in his prayerlessness then denied Jesus 3X as a result – Matthew 26:69-75.

Luke 22:31-32

“witness” – “one who testifies” – Peter was an outspoken witness of Jesus.

“witness” – also means “eye witness” – Luke 23:49.

“and a partaker also” – Peter identifies with all believers.

“glory that is to be revealed,” – is a reference to the final and complete unveiling of Jesus Christ in glory at His Second Coming – Matthew 24:29-30.

## **2. Verses 2-3 – A Shepherd Must Love & Care:**

1 Peter 5:2

### **Peter Gives 4 Directives To Church Leaders:**

**1. Shepherd God’s Flock Among You:** “shepherd the flock of God” – What does it mean? “shepherd,” “feed,” “tend;” “the flock” – a shepherd is “to feed, protect, guide, tend the flock of God.” – Provision and Protection – Isaiah 53:6.

Moses Was God’s Shepherd To Israel: Isaiah 63:11.

King David, Israel’s Shepherd, Was A Sheep: Psalm 23.

In The NT Church, God Calls And Anoints His Shepherds:  
Ephesians 4:11 – “some as pastors and teachers,” – “shepherd.”

“among you,” – “those entrusted to your care”. This flock, sheep belong to God!

Hebrews 13:20; 1 Peter 2:25; 1 Peter 5:4

1 Corinthians 3:5-7; 1 Corinthians 4:1

"shepherd the flock of God among you," – "to feed, protect, guide, tend the flock of God" – Provision and Protection – Ephesians 4:11.

Peter Was Given This Same Instruction: John 21:15-17.

2 Timothy 4:1-2

Provision, Protection And Loving The Flock Of God.

- 2. Serving As Overseers:** "exercising oversight" – word "Bishop" – "to gaze upon something, look at something carefully". From this word we get our English "Microscope." Pastors need to see the big picture and details.

"not under compulsion," – Elder's Attitude – Pastors are not to feed and oversee out of "being pressured, to do something unwillingly, no way out" – 1 Corinthians 9:16.

"but voluntarily," – Pastors serve with zeal; Pastors serve willingly.

"according to the will of God;" – "as God wants you to be"

- 3. Serving In Eagerness Not For Dishonest Gain:** "and not for sordid gain," – speaks of "a spirit of greediness motivated by financial gain, shameful gain" – Money is not a healthy motivation.

"not for sordid gain," – Personal recognition, popularity – Personal power.

"but with eagerness;" – "holy zeal, to serve readily, willingly, enthusiasm."

1 Peter 5:3

- 4. Be Examples Not Lords Over Others:** "nor yet as lording it over" – "to control, rule, master of, leading by force, domineering, a dictator over the sheep."

Matthew 20:25-28

"those allotted to your charge," – "allotted portion"

Jesus Preached Servant Style Leadership: "but proving to be examples to the flock." – The word "examples" – "to stamp, to die, to model or pattern or print" – Philippians 3:12-14.

John 13:14-15

Sheep Are To Be Lead – Cattle Must Be Driven: 1 Corinthians 11:1.

### **3. Verse 4 – A Shepherd Must Want To Please Christ:**

1 Peter 5:4 – “And when the Chief Shepherd appears,” – Jesus who is the Chief Shepherd – Every church leader is an under-shepherd – John 10:11; Hebrews 13:20.

“appears,” – The return of Jesus.

Promise Of A Reward For Faithful Service: “you will receive the unfading crown” – the crown that will never fade away.

“crown” – “Stephanos used of a perishable wreath, made with olive leaves, parsley, oak or ivy leaves that was given to athletes who were victorious in the games and to citizens who distinguished themselves in public service” – Hebrews 2:9.

2 Timothy 4:8

“the unfading crown of glory.” – The crown of honor, of praise – 2 Peter 1:16.

### **Application:**

1. Under-Shepherds Are Also Sheep. One Must Have An Encounter With Jesus In Order To Be His Witness And To Share In His Future Glory.
2. God’s Calling To Under-Shepherds Is The Call To Servant Style Leadership. Teaching The Word, Protecting And Loving The Flock.
3. Preaching Must Never Be A Profession But A Passion. A Holy Zeal To Serve, A Willing Enthusiasm To Serve God And His People.
4. As A Fellowship, In What Ways Can We Encourage Our Church Leaders? Pray For Us, Defend Us, And Submit Ourselves To God: Hebrews 13:17.