

SERMON OUTLINE John 10:1-18

Shepherd Leadership Under the Good Shepherd

CHURCH LEADERSHIP HAS ALWAYS BEEN SHEPHERD LEADERSHIP

God As Shepherd Leader

Israel's Leaders as Shepherds

The Promise and Coming of the Good Shepherd

The Apostles As Shepherds

Elders As Shepherds

SHEPHERD LEADERSHIP IN JOHN 10 AND TODAY

Shepherds Know their Sheep

Shepherds Lead their Sheep

Shepherds Feed their Sheep

Shepherds Protect their Sheep

IMPLICATIONS OF SHEPHERD LEADERSHIP FOR CHURCH MEMBERS

Sheep Need to Be Known

Sheep Need to Be Lead

Sheep Need to Be Fed

Sheep Need to Be Protected

SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

MAIN POINT

The big ideas of this sermon are that God has always led His people like a good shepherd leads his sheep and God often does so through His appointed human shepherd leaders. The main takeaway for shepherd leaders is to know, lead, feed, and protect God's sheep as God does. And the main takeaway for God's people is to be known, be led, be fed, and be protected.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What were your thoughts on the text/sermon? What most stood out? How was it helpful? Confusing?
2. What is your understanding of God's design for church leadership? What constitutes good or bad leadership within a church? What does God mean leaders to do (or not do)? What's the goal of church leadership?
3. Which biblical passages most shape your understanding of leadership within a local church?
4. As you consider the idea of shepherd leadership, what comes to mind? In what ways does it sound like the kind of leadership you'd want? Are there any ways it sounds unappealing?
5. How have you experienced God's shepherding in your life?
6. Had you ever noticed that all of God's appointed leaders are called shepherd leaders? Why do you think that's significant?
7. Which aspect of God's shepherding care is most encouraging to you (knowing, leading, feeding, protecting)? Which of those are the strongest at Grace Church? Which would you most like to see strengthened?
8. Which area of membership would you most like to grow in (allowing yourself to be known, led, fed, or protected)? Which is easiest for you? Which is most challenging?
9. In what way/s did the sermon help you see the greatness of God?

AREAS OF APPLICATION

10. Look over the passages from Pastor Dave's manuscript on shepherd leadership throughout the Bible. Make notes of what form the good and bad shepherding took. Look for ways to encourage the good and discourage the bad at Grace.
11. Prayerfully decide on one specific way that you will seek to grow in being known, led, fed, or protected.
12. Pursue membership if you are not already a member. Find a way to be a more fruitful member if you are one already.
13. Ask your elder to help you identify one area in which you might grow in Christ or better use your gifts to strengthen the church.
14. Go back over the sermon before your DG and share something you find there. Read your Bible every day this week.
15. Ask two different people in your family or DG (1) One thing they got from this sermon, and (2) How you can pray for them.
16. Ask God to show you one specific thing you ought to do differently as a result of this text or sermon? Share that and pray about it with someone in your DG. Continue praying for and checking in with each other until you've both done it.

PRAYER POINTS

17. Adoration. Praise God for being the Good Shepherd. Praise God for being omniscient. Praise God for being all-sufficient and all-satisfying. Praise God for being the perfect shield. Praise God for being patient and kind.
18. Confess. Confess any ways you've neglected to know and be known, led, fed, or protected by God or His shepherd leaders. Confess any ways you've resisted Jesus' good shepherding. Confess any ways you've tried to lead in ungodly ways.
19. Thanksgiving. Thank God for any ways you've experienced good shepherding. Thank God for the faithful shepherds in your life. Thank God that He has promised to provide for you exactly the kind of shepherding that is best for you.
20. Supplication. Ask God to strengthen the shepherds of Grace Church and all of God's churches. Ask God to heal wounds from poor human shepherding. Ask God to grant repentance to all shepherds who lead for selfish-gain. Ask God to cause our church to thrive in every way God intends.