



The Epistles of Peter
1 Peter 5:1-4
From Sermon 2.15.26

Read *1 Peter 5:1-4*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: After camping on personal conduct and its connection to strength in persecution, Peter now addresses the leader/shepherds of the local church who will feed and protect the flock. Not only Holy Spirit inspired, but Peter knew the stresses and requirements of church leadership. In his life, he had to learn humility, teachability, submission, and restoration. He teaches as a fellow elder whose eyes were fixed on fulfilling his mission and a reunion with the Chief Shepherd.

1. How are people (men) called into pastoral ministry? Self/internal interest desire. Special call from God.* At the urging and encouragement of other godly men. Necessity/need. See 1 Timothy 3:1.

2. What are unbiblical reasons men enter church ministry? Sounds easy. Little accountability. Easy to set own schedule and include recreation/travel. Money. Power. Influence. Access to the vulnerable = abuses. See also Matthew 7:15

2a. Why is this trend so sad and scary? They will face the strictest judgment if saved and the darkest hell if they are not saved.

3. What do you think most modern churchgoers are looking for in a local pastor? Various Answers. Hospitable. Engaging. Charismatic. Relatable. Entertaining. Sympathetic. Successful*. Knowledgeable.

3a. Which of those traits are honorable and which are irrelevant*? Honorable = Knowledge, hospitality, sympathy. Irrelevant = entertaining, charismatic, and successful.

4. What four key titles/terms does Peter (the entire New Testament) give to local church leaders?

- Elder: Presbytery—Plural. More than one.
- Overseer: Episkopos.
- Pastor—Poimeen—Shepherd.
- Witness—Martyr.

5. What is the administration structure of various churches? Single pastor lead with various subordinate associate pastors, also boards and committees. Administrative board that runs the day-to-day operations and decisions. Pastor just preaches. Congregation/majority rule decisions. Outside governing bodies that dictate what the local church/pastor will do.

5a. What is the biblical blueprint for church government? A plurality of elders whose main ministry is teaching the Word and prayer, while overseeing the various ministry leaders who are deacons. Every member is a minister. See also Acts 6:1-6 & Acts 20:17-35

6. What are the biblical qualifications for elders? Male. Godly character is always first. Being a model and example of that which they preach. Holding fast to Scripture and devoted to preaching truth. See Titus 1:5-9.

7. Why is it critical for both the pastor and the congregation to remember that the pastor/elder is human? They are not supermen. They cannot do every ministry. They have flaws and failures. They have families and personal needs. They need ongoing support, grace, encouragement, prayer, and refreshing.