

Sermon Questions

1 Peter 5:1-5

Shepherds after God's Heart

1. What stood out to you in this week's message?
2. This week, the message was about being shepherds after God's heart. Yet, before we look at how to be shepherds, we must look to the Ultimate Shepherd: Jesus Christ. Read the following verses that describe Jesus as being our Shepherd: Matthew 9:35-38, Mark 6:34, John 10:11, and Psalm 23. What are some of Jesus' qualities that make Him the Ultimate Shepherd? How has Jesus specifically shepherded you this past week?
3. Read 1 Peter 5:2-3. Peter tells us to be shepherds and examples to the flock. This means that we are to shepherd those who are under our leadership. This includes church leaders, parents, business leaders, supermarket managers, doctors, etc. Go around and have each person list their position of leadership that they are involved in. Then, ask the question: What are the challenges and the blessings that come from being the shepherd of your flock?
4. There are two ways that Peter tells us to be Shepherds. The first has to do with our actions. Pastor Jim gave us four actions associated with being a shepherd:
 - a. Heal the sick, strengthen the weak, bind up the injured (Matt. 9:35-38)
 - b. Bring back strays and search for the lost. (Ezekiel 34:12)
 - c. Protect the sheep from danger. (1 Peter 5:18)
 - d. Provide guidance and wisdom. (Proverbs 1:5)

- Discuss each action step. What step do you find drawn to as a leader? What step are you weak in that you need God to help you with?
5. The second way that Peter tells us to be shepherds is through our attitudes. These attitudes correspond with the actions that we are given as well and are reminders of how we should view being shepherds:
 - a. Remember that it is God's flock. (Ezekiel 34:21)
 - b. Remember that God has placed you in your position of leadership. (1 Corinthians 12:27-31)
 - c. View people as God's beloved children that we have the opportunity to serve. (Galatians 3:26-29)
 - d. Being a shepherd is an opportunity to lay down your life for others. (John 15:12-13)

- How can we as believers be ready when God calls us to be leaders and shepherds of His people? How will these attitudes prepare us?
6. Please spend time praying together. Pray and thank God for being our Shepherd, Savior and King. Pray that God will prepare us for the call He has placed on our lives. Pray that we can be faithful as we lead His people and that God will show His power, love and mercy in His church.