



Life Group Discussion Guide
God's Expectation of Shepherds

1 Peter 5:1-5

Pastor Paul Edwards

March 21, 2021

Main Thought: To be a good shepherd, you must follow the Good Shepherd.

Sunday Outline:

- Shepherd to Shepherd Conversation (v.1)
- Shepherd's Responsibility (v.2)
- Shepherd's Manner of Ministry (vs.2-3)
- Shepherd's Hope (v.4)

Welcome & Fellowship Time (*Suggested Time 10 Minutes*)

Open in Prayer

Week in Review: (*Suggested Sharing Time 10 minutes*)

- Share a time when refining fire produced something precious in your life.

Discussion Starter: (*Suggested Time 5 minutes*)

- Why does character count when it comes to leadership?

Sermon Review: (*Suggested Time 20 minutes*).

Review 1 Peter 5:1-5 and discuss the following questions:

- Why did Peter have authority to tell them this?
- What is the job of elders? What are the other titles given to people doing the same job in the church?
- How does understanding "the flock" belong to God affect an elder's service?
- Describe the way elders were to lead.
- What motivation does Peter give to elders to inspire them to this type of service?



Digging Deeper: *(Suggested Time 15 minutes)*

In 1 Timothy 3:1-7, the Apostle Paul introduces us to his qualifications for elders.

- What does it mean to be “above reproach”?
- Why is observing how a person manages his household important when considering whether or not a person should be an overseer?
- What would a prudent person look like? What kind of things will a prudent person do?
- Why is community respect so important for an elder?
- Does the warning about new converts focus simply on time or are other factors involved?

Application: *(Suggested Time 10 minutes)*

- Peter describes himself as a witness of Christ’s sufferings. Scripture teaches that Christ suffered and died to accomplish our salvation. Have you trusted Christ as your personal Saviour?
- Even if you are not an elder, what are some principles from 1 Peter 5:1-5 that you can apply to your own life?
- We are called to follow pastors as we follow the Chief Shepherd, Jesus. Are you able to see your submission to pastoral authority as part of your submission to Christ, Himself? What makes this hard or easy to do?
- What can you do to help make the elder’s job easier?

Group Prayer Requests: *(Suggested Time 10 minutes)*

Spend time praying for each other & praying for application of the study in the lives of the group members. *(Suggested time 10 minutes)*