

# Shepherds - Servants - Stewards

1 Peter 5:1-6

## 1 Pet 5:2

Be Shepherds (KJV = Feed the Flock)

This is poimaino - The Greek word "bosko" means simply "to feed". However "poimaino" includes the full realm of caretaking that a shepherd does for the sheep - **feeding, caring for, guiding, guarding, and protecting**

### Poimaino

Acts 20:25-31 "Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again. 26 Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men. 27 For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. 28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which **the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.** 29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. 30 Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. 31 So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

## 1 Pet 5:2

Of God's Flock

Acts 2:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. *Be shepherds of **the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.***

Ezekiel 34:1-10 The word of the LORD came to me: 2 "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to the shepherds of Israel who only take care of themselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock?' 3 You eat the curds, clothe yourselves with the wool and slaughter the choice animals, but you do not take care of the flock. 4 You have not strengthened the weak or healed the sick or bound up the injured. You have not brought back the strays or searched for the lost. You have ruled them harshly and brutally. 5 So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild animals. 6 My sheep wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. They were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them.

7 "Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: 8 As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, because my flock lacks a shepherd and so has been plundered and has become food for all the wild animals, and because my shepherds did not search for my flock but cared for themselves rather than for my flock, 9 therefore, O shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: 10 This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I am against the shepherds and will hold them accountable for my flock. I will remove them from tending the flock so that the shepherds can no longer feed themselves. I will rescue my flock from their mouths, and it will no longer be food for them.

## 1 Pet 5:2

### Placed Under Your Care - SERVING as Overseers

The Greek word *episkopos*, often translated "bishop" or "overseer," means **one who looks upon, considers, has regard for, is concerned for, or cares for something or someone**

Matthew 25:36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and **you looked after me**, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

Luke 7:16 They were all filled with awe and praised God. "A great prophet has appeared among us," they said. "God has **come to help** his people."

Acts 6:3 Brothers, **choose** seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them [they were overseeing by making sure the widows were cared for]

Acts 7:23-24 "When Moses was forty years old, he decided **to visit** his fellow Israelites. 24 He saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian.

Acts 15:36 Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back **and visit** the brothers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing."

James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: **to look after** orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

## 1 Pet 5:2

SERVING as overseers—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to SERVE

There is a willing spirit and eagerness to **SERVE**

- this is not about being coerced [because you are willing as GOD wants you to be]
- this is not about power, or status [not greedy]

Matthew 26:41 "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit **is willing**, but the body is weak."

## 1 Pet 5:3

### Not Lording it Over

From *katakuriēuō* to **lord against, that is, control, subjugate**

Matthew 20:21-28 "What is it you want?" he asked. She said, "Grant that one of these

two sons of mine may sit at your right and the other at your left in your kingdom.”  
22 “You don’t know what you are asking,” Jesus said to them. “Can you drink the cup I am going to drink?” “We can,” they answered. 23 Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink from my cup, but to sit at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared by my Father.” 24 When the ten heard about this, they were indignant with the two brothers. 25 Jesus called them together and said, “You know that **the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them**, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you. Instead, **whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant**, 27 and whoever wants to be first must be your slave—28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

### **1 Pet 5:3**

Those Entrusted to You (KJV God’s Heritage)

The flock is God’s - and there are some that have been allotted to our care

### **1 Pet 5:3**

But Being Examples to the Flock

Philippians 3:17 **Join with others in following my example**, brothers, and take note of those who live according to the pattern we gave you.

1 Thessalonians 1:4-7 For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. 6 **You became imitators of us and of the Lord**; in spite of severe suffering, you welcomed the message with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. 7 And so **you became a model** to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia.

2 Thessalonians 3:7-9 For you yourselves know how you **ought to follow our example**. We were not idle when we were with you, 8 nor did we eat anyone’s food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. 9 We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order **to make ourselves a model for you to follow**.

1 Timothy 4:12 Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, **but set an example for the believers** in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity.

Titus 2:6-8 Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled. 7 In everything **set them an example** by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness 8 and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

### **1 Pet 5:4**

And When the Chief Shepherd Appears

There is an inescapable accountability to Jesus the Chief Shepherd - for sheep and shepherd.

Hebrews 13:17 Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

There is a relationship that God desires between sheep and shepherd - and this in no way impinges upon CHRIST being the chief shepherd - it is simply his design for carrying out the caring of His flock upon the earth

- Sheep - obey and submit (obey is to be persuaded by)
- Elders - to keep watch

### **1 Pet 5:5-6**

#### Clothe Yourself With Humility

And beyond this - humility must reign in all our hearts - it is the path to God's grace

5 Young men, in the same way be submissive to those who are older. **All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another,** because, "**God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.**" 6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.