

I Peter 5:1-4 Good Leaders



- In a time when power is abused in the world
- When powerful people can do anything as long as the company is running well
- The leaders of the church are to act differently



- Peter sets the tone by being an equal with the elders
- Peter addresses the leaders of the church at the end of this letter
- He was the leader of the 12 apostles of Jesus
- He could have used his authority as an apostle



- If you know Jesus as your Savior, you get the same salvation that Peter received
- And so Peter at the same level as all of us gives us the qualities of a good Christian leader



I. Be a Shepherd Vs. 2



- Psalm 23 says, “The Lord is my shepherd”
- God is the one who takes care of me
- God provides for my needs
- God also leads me through some dark valleys



- Jesus called himself the good shepherd
- That he the shepherd would lay down his life for the sheep. Jesus was talking about going to the cross
- He knew his sheep and his sheep knew him



- My uncle had cows and as a child I enjoyed going to the farm and helping take care of the COWS.
- In the summer, the cows would be out in the fields eating grass



- Sheep need someone to guide them
- And so the Bible says, “we all like sheep have gone astray” We need a shepherd to guide us
- There are wolves in this world that teach false ideas



- And so the Christian leader-shepherd teaches the Bible
- Guides us in the truth so we don't get lead astray



II. Willingly Serve Vs. 2



- Whenever you read that Jesus had compassion, he did something about it
- Jesus fed the people who were hungry
- He healed the people who were sick
- He served the people



- The church should be an atmosphere of service
- Where needy people have their needs met
- Where people who are sick are taken care of



III. Not Greedy for Money Vs. 3



- Greed is never good, it is wanting more and more
- Contentment with what you have is good
- Yes, we need money to do ministry
- But there must be good accounting and accountability



IV. Not lording it over people Vs. 4



- This is a boss that makes people stay late
- And you do his work so he can do something else
- The boss that uses people rather than working with them



- Examples of shepherding, not greedy for money
- And serving
- Jesus said, *“the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many”*



Tend the flock of God in your midst, [overseeing] not by constraint but willingly, as God would have it, not for shameful profit but eagerly

cuiden como pastores el rebaño de Dios que está a su cargo, no por obligación ni por ambición de dinero, sino con afán de servir, como Dios quiere

lichungeni kundi la Mungu lililo kwenu, na kulisimamia, si kwa kulazimishwa, bali

kwa hiari kama Mungu atakavyo; si kwa kutaka fedha ya aibu, bali kwa moyo

你们应当牧养你们中间神的羊群,要按神的意思照顾他们,不是出于勉强,而是出于甘心;也不是出于贪财,而是出于乐意

Құдайдың өздеріңе сеніп тапсырған рухани «отарын» (яғни қауымын) қамқорлап

бағыңдар! Мұны лажсыздан емес, шын көңілден, Құдайдың еркіне сай орындаңдар.

Оны ашкөз пайдақорлықпен де емес, адал ынта-жігермен істеңдер

Ẹ máa tójú agbo Ọlórún tí ń bẹ láàrin yín, ẹ máa bojútó o, kì í ẹ àfipáẹ, bí kò ẹ tìfètìfẹ; kó má sì jẹ fún èrè iṣẹkújẹ, bí kò ẹ pẹlú ipinnu tí ó múra tan

I Peter 5:1-4 Good Leaders

In a time when power is abused in the world
When people use their power to get what they want
When powerful people can do anything as long as the company
is running well
The leaders of the church are to act differently
But sadly, there are some that think the church can be run like a business
And so there are abuses of power
Peter sets the tone by being an equal with the elders
Peter addresses the leaders of the church at the end of this letter
He was the leader of the 12 apostles of Jesus
He could have used his authority as an apostle
But he doesn't. Instead he writes them as a fellow elder
And Peter's qualifications for giving them this teaching
He witnessed Jesus' suffering
Peter was with Jesus during his 3 year ministry
He saw the religious leaders mock and argue with Jesus
And Peter was around when Jesus suffered on the cross
There was no written account that Peter was there at the cross
But he knew what happened and saw Jesus after the resurrection
Peter shared the same salvation that the leaders had
The thing about going to heaven as a Christian
Everyone gets the same salvation
There aren't different levels of heaven for better Christians
If you know Jesus as your Savior, you get the same salvation
that Peter received
And so Peter at the same level as all of us gives us
the qualities of a good Christian leader

I. Be a Shepherd Vs. 2

The Bible uses the shepherd-sheep idea in many places
Psalm 23 says, "The Lord is my shepherd"
God is the one who takes care of me
God provides for my needs

God also leads me through some dark valleys
And even though the valleys of life are bad,
God is always there, God is ever present with me
The religious leaders were shepherds in the Old Testament
But they didn't always do a good job
Many times they abused their power and took advantage of the people
Taking too much and not giving enough
Jesus called himself the good shepherd
That he the shepherd would lay down his life for the sheep
Jesus was talking about going to the cross
He knew his sheep and his sheep knew him
There is a relationship between the sheep and shepherd
I didn't know any shepherds but I did know a cow herder
My uncle had cows and as a child I enjoyed
going to the farm and helping take care of the cows.
In the summer, the cows would be out in the fields eating
grass and it would be time for the evening milking.
My uncle would call out, "Here boss, Here boss"
Don't know why he said that
The cows would come running to the barn
I would try calling to the cows but they wouldn't come
They didn't know my voice
The shepherd sheep idea was very familiar to people
They saw it regularly in the countryside
The sheep needed the shepherd
Sheep are helpless alone, sheep need a protector
Wolves can easily take a sheep down
And sheep aren't the smartest animals
Sheep need someone to guide them
And so the Bible says, "we all like sheep have gone astray"
We need a shepherd to guide us
There are wolves in this world that teach false ideas
Wolves that would like to devour you
And so the Christian leader-shepherd teaches the Bible

Guides us in the truth so we don't get lead astray
I am thankful that there are many shepherds at ICC
Men and women that know the truth of God's Word
And the Elders at ICC are trustworthy
Steve, Kevin and Jim are the elected Elders
Jesus is our #1 Shepherd
He taught the truth and his teaching guides us away
from false teachers today
And Jesus also served the people

II. Willingly Serve Vs. 2

When you read Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
You see a Jesus that had compassion on the people
Whenever you read that Jesus had compassion,
he did something about it
Jesus fed the people who were hungry
He healed the people who were sick
He served the people
And he is an example for us
You can call it compassion or love
It is a feeling that we have deep within
And it is a feeling that Jesus acted upon
Empathy would be just a feeling, I feel bad for them
But you don't do anything about it
The church should be an atmosphere of service
Where needy people have their needs met
Where people who are sick are taken care of
And we don't do it because we have to
Not because you must do it, I have to help
But because you are willing and want to help
Who can you serve this week?

III. Not Greedy for Money Vs. 3

Why is money always a problem?
When some people gets into power, they want money
We can see this with TV preachers
They are asking for money and then God will bless you 10x

Of course you have to give the money first to see if it works
And then they will blame you if you don't get the 10X blessing
You didn't have enough faith
Greed is never good, it is wanting more and more
Contentment with what you have is good
There are many examples of the abuse of money and ministry
Yes, we need money to do ministry
But there must be good accounting and accountability

IV. Not lording it over people Vs. 4

To lord it over someone means that you are abusing your power
This is a boss that makes people stay late
And you do his work so he can do something else
The boss that uses people rather than working with them
People become workers to accomplish your work
When the church starts using a business model it loses
the meaning of being a church
As a church leader, you all have been entrusted to me
That means God has brought you here
And God wants us to work together as a church
I don't want to forget that idea
And I want to be sensitive to where you are in life
I want to know what you can do and what you have
energy to do
I don't want to put on you more than you can handle
But may I and the Elders of ICC be examples
Examples of shepherding, not greedy for money
And serving
Jesus said, "*the Son of Man did not come to be served,
but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many*"
That's an example
And as Christian leaders lead there will be a reward
When the chief shepherd appears-that's Jesus
We are reminded that Jesus is the shepherd
He served and gave his life for us
He will give a crown of glory that won't fade
That's eternal