

Serve one another in the flock and with other flocks, 1 Cor. 12; Eph. 4:11-16; Rom. 12:4-16

Develop loving **fellowship** among members of the flock, Rom. 12:3-21; 1 Cor. 13

Worship as a body, including the Lord's Supper, Matt. 26:26-28, Heb. 10:25; Acts 2:46; 20:7

Tell people about Jesus, Luke 24:46-48; Acts 1:8; 2 Tim. 4:5

Make disciples who do what Jesus commands, Matt. 28:18-20 (example: Acts 2:37-47)

Use the Word to equip believers for ministries, 1 Tim. 3:16-17; Jam. 1:22-26; Eph. 4:11-12

Start new flocks where people are neglected, Acts chapters 13 & 14

Prepare and send 'apostles' to neglected, receptive peoples, Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 13:1-3

Mentor novice shepherds and apostles who are apprentices, Mark 3:14; Titus 1:5; 2 Tim. 2:2

3. Plan with co-workers the upcoming worship time

Tell about Paul's meeting with the Ephesian elders, from **Acts 20:17-38**. Ask questions about what you found (See Part 1, above).

Explain the qualifications and duties of shepherding elders.

Announce and deal with the plans that you made for ministries that need development (See Part 2, above).

To introduce the Lord's Supper, read John 10, verses 11-15 and 27-30. Explain that Jesus is the Good Shepherd who shed His blood for His sheep, who we are.

Let the children present what they have prepared (always have children's teachers use the Paul-Timothy Children's Study of the same number and topic as the New Shepherd's Study.)

Meet in groups of two or three persons to pray, encourage one another and make plans.

Memorize together Jeremiah 3:15.

God's Shepherds Do What the Apostles Told Elders to Do

Those who teach children should read study #87 for children.

"I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock. And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory." *1 Peter 5:1-4*



Prayer: "Dear Lord, please help us elders to shepherd the flock that you entrusted to our care. Help us to do it willingly and not for money, not by lording it over them but by serving humbly as examples, the way that Jesus and His apostles modelled it."

1. Prepare with God's Word to Do a Shepherd's Duties

Find in Acts 20:17-38 what Paul instructed elders to do, by his word and by his example:

Settings where elders teach. [*Verse 20*]

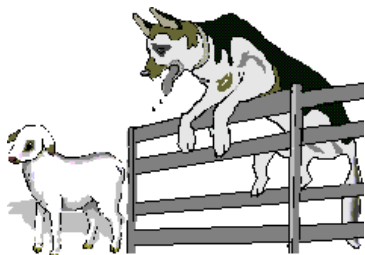
What elders are to declare. [Verse 27]

Why elders must be alert. [Verses 28-29]

Where wolves can appear. [Verses 30-31]

How Paul earned his living in Ephesus. [Verses 33-35]

How elders showed love for their mentor. [Verses 36-38]



Find in Titus 1:5-9 reasons for naming elders and their qualifications:

What Titus was to do in every city of Crete. [Verses 4-5]

The qualifications of Elders. [Verses 6-9]

Please take a moment now and **prayerfully review** Paul's list of character virtues that shepherds should have, and select two or three that you need to develop more fully.

I shall visit you tomorrow with my wife.

My beloved shepherd!
I need your wise counsel
for a problem that I have.
Come to my house.



"An overseer must be above reproach... self-controlled..."
Titus 1:7-8

Find in Ephesians 4:11-12 several requirements for leaders. [Find answers in the verses cited.]

What your teaching must enable believers to do. [Verses 11-12]

God's purpose for your leading. [Verse 13]

The result of your leading concerning doctrine. [Verse 14]

The result concerning the way the believers talk. [Verse 15]

The result concerning how believers treat one another [Verse 16]

Find in Matthew 18:15-17 how elders are to deal with reports of bad behaviour.

What should be done about a complaint before you deal with it?

Mary offended me again.
Do something about it!



Have you talked
with her about it?
Jesus said that
you are to talk with
her, first, alone.

2. Plan with co-workers activities to do during the week

Pray for God's help to do your shepherd's duties.

Discern which ministries need attention in your flock, and plan to develop them:

Counsel, correct without attacking and restore troubled or straying sheep, 1 Cor. 5. Gal. 6:1-2

Strengthen marriages and family life, Ephesians 5:21 through 6:4

Help believers to **pray** and to have daily personal and family devotional times, 1 Thess. 5:17

Pray for the **sick, needy** and **victims of injustice**, Gen. 18:20-33; James 5:14-15

Serve the needy within the church body and in the larger community, Acts 6:1-6; Gal. 6:10

Give, as stewards of what God has given us, Luke 6:38; Matt. 25:14-30

Organize so that all serve with their spiritual gifts in harmony in the body, 1 Cor. 12