

A PROFILE ON PASTORING

I Peter 5:1-4

If we are going to serve well, pastors and congregations need to have a biblical understanding of pastoral ministry

I. THE PASTOR'S INSTRUCTION (1)

A. THE VALUE OF EXPERIENCED INSTRUCTORS

1. There is value in biblical exhortation from experienced men - **II Tim. 2:2**
2. Peter is uniquely qualified to provide this instruction

B. THE NEED FOR SUCH INSTRUCTION

1. The persecution of the church was apt to make pastors passive and the sheep skittish
- It's hard to shepherd skittish sheep
2. Disaster is lurking for abusive pastors and inattentive sheep! - See Ezekiel 34
3. Uneducated pastors will develop uneducated congregations

C. THE REALITY OF SUCH INSTRUCTION

1. Pastors benefit from interaction with experienced pastors
2. It is good if a church can provide conference and library funds for such interactions

II. THE PASTOR'S CONGREGATION (2a & 5)

A. THEY ARE SPECIAL (2a)

1. Entrusted ones: The congregation is God's flock not the pastor's
2. Assigned ones: Pastor and people are assigned or appointed to each other
3. Precious ones: A pastor particularly cares for God's precious people

B. THEY SHOULD BE HELPFUL (5)

- It's best when the congregation doesn't make it hard for the pastor to pastor
1. Being Submissive (5a)
 - a. For the younger: Yield to the voices of experience
 - b. For all of us: Willingly, voluntarily put yourself under the authority of others
- Especially the church and its pastor - See Heb. 13:17 and I Thess. 5:12-13
 2. Being Cooperative (5b)
 - a. Clothed with humility - See Christ's example in John 13:4
 - b. Involved in active and selfless service
 3. Being "Bless-able" (5c)
 - a. Avoiding God's Resistance
 - b. Receiving God's Reward

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III. THE PASTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY (2b)

A. SHEPHERD GOD'S FLOCK

1. *The ability to care*

2. He is to feed, protect and provide proper pastures - See Acts 20:28 and Eph. 4:11-12

B. SERVE AS AN OVERSEER

1. *The authority to lead*

2. He is to exercise oversight as a supervisor, coach or manager

3. His is a God-ordained authority that should be exercised in and recognized by the congregation

- For this he should be paid (I Cor. 9:13-14), esteemed (I Thess. 5:12-13) and honored (I Tim. 5:17)

IV. THE PASTOR'S MINISTRY (2c-3)

A. WORK VOLUNTARILY (2c)

1. Not by Compulsion

- a. Real ministry cannot and should not be forced upon anyone
- b. Not because he must meet someone's expectations

2. But Willingly: Convinced that this is God's will for him and yielded to it

B. LABOR ENTHUSIASTICALLY (2d)

- Not for personal enrichment but with eagerness

1. Not for Sordid Gain: That which is base or dishonorable or greedy

2. But Eagerly: With emotion and zeal as a part of one's service to God

- See I Corinthians 9:16

C. SERVE HUMBLLY (3)

1. Not as Lords

- a. No power grab and the mere delight of authority over others
- b. There are to be no oppressive or overbearing attitudes

- Exp: Diotrephes in III John 9-10

2. But as Examples

a. Living a commendable lifestyle - I Tim. 4:12 and Titus 2:7-8

b. Demonstrating the greatness of lowliness - Matt. 20:26

V. THE PASTOR'S REWARD (4)

A. A CROWN

1. Christ's un-withering reward for a worthy worker
2. Something notable and noticeable

B. ETERNAL

1. Pastors may never have a moment in the spotlight but will enjoy an eternity of honor
2. This is future and not presently in hand ... like all rewards

VI. THE PROFILE PERSONALIZED

- What does this mean for us at Franklin Road Baptist Church?

A. SHEEP NEED SHEPHERDS (2a)

1. To protect, feed, unify, care and go after the strays
2. A church will not function well without good leadership

B. SHEPHERDS NEED SCRUTINIZED BY A BIBLICAL STANDARD

1. Have they learned from others? (v. 1)
2. Do they treat people as special (2a) and remind them to be helpful? (v. 5)
3. Do they care (shepherd) and lead (giving oversight)? (v. 2b)
4. Do they yield to God's work or reluctantly participate? (v. 2c)
5. Do they labor enthusiastically or for a paycheck? (v. 2d)
6. Do they serve as a worthy example or abuse authority? (v. 3)

CONCLUSION:

**May God help us serve Him well as a pastor and people
who understand the role of a pastor**