

PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

SPIRITUAL, RELATIONAL, and FUNCTIONAL

Definition: pastoral leadership is most simply defined as “spiritual influence”

SELECTED SCRIPTURES

- I Timothy 3:1-12
- Titus 1:5-9
- I Peter 5:1-11
- I Timothy 4:16
- Acts 20:18-38
- I Thessalonians 2:6-12
- Ephesians 4:11-12
- John 21:15-17

Pastor comes from the Greek word poimen meaning a shepherd, a herdsman, a feeder, a protector or ruler of a flock of people.

The word protection is often associated with the office. The pastor is a shepherd who cares and has committed themselves to precepts which they follow.

The term pastor used metaphorically can mean presiding officer, manager, director or overseer of a Christian assembly of which Jesus Christ is the head.

Pastors lead, direct, feed, equip, care, correct, instruct, and steward God’s people and resources. They are to model Christ-like lives and build healthy communities. There is a distinction between shepherding and pastoring.

A pastor’s uniqueness is clearly observed but not often understood. Pastors vary from one another based on their calling, spiritual gifting, background, denominational polity, and personality.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SHEPHERD AND A PASTOR?

SHEPHERD - a person or a team who leads a group of God’s people to follow His purposes and walk together in a common direction in obedience to God’s Word.

PASTOR – a person who provides safety and nurture; truth and challenge; to help another person grow in Christ likeness.

SHEPHERDING DEFINED - Spiritual calling to provide direction for a group of people to move in common direction to fulfill God’s purposes.

EXAMPLES OF SHEPHERD LEADERSHIP IN THE BIBLE:

- DAVID** And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them. Psalm 78:72
- MOSES** You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron Psalm 77:20
- JESUS** My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27
- PAUL** 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. Acts 20:28
- PETER** Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them-not because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve, not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 1 Peter 5:2-3

A shepherd provides the necessary support and direction to equip a group of god's people to grow together by providing the following:

- **DIRECTION**
- **PROTECTION**
- **CARE**
- **FEEDING**
- **CORRECTION**