



Towels, Not Titles!

Date: May 22nd, 2022

Text: 1 Peter 5:1-4

Passage Summary: Biblical leadership is often either abounding or lacking in the church today, but one thing is certain, in God's design it plays a critical role in setting the _____ and establishing the _____ of any healthy body of believers!

180 Degree Truth #1: See that Biblical leadership in God's design is grounded in the _____ of a _____! (5:1-4)

Biblical leadership terms that are grounded in the imagery of a shepherd:

Elder: Presbyteros

Overseer: Episkopos, more formally translated bishop

"Elder refers to the maturity of the officer, bishop to the responsibility of the office."

Warren Wiersbe

Shepherd: Poimen, from where we get our English word for pastor

*"From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the **elders** of the church. 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 20:17, 28

Application: Recognize that when it comes to serving in the leadership role of a shepherd...

- _____ matter! (v.1-4)

"All a man's ways seem innocent to him, but motives are weighed by the LORD."

Proverbs 16:2

See that the motives God is looking for in a shepherd are those who are...

_____ : It's not a have to, but a _____ to! (v.1-2a)

"So I will very gladly spend for you everything I have and expend myself as well."

2 Corinthians 12:15

_____ : It's not what's in it for me, but how can I _____ You?" (v.2b)

"Since an overseer is entrusted with God's work, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain."

Titus 1:7

_____ : "It's not about titles, but _____!" (v.3)

"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you."

Matthew 20:25-26

_____ : It's not a futile calling, but a _____ one! (v.4)

"Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

1 Corinthians 15:58

Remember: When it comes to Biblical leadership, opposition and heartache will be a part of the journey, but those who press on in faithful service are those who _____ the _____ of unfading glory in Jesus that awaits!

Core Conviction to Live By: Resolutely determine that for you personally, serving Jesus will be all about taking up a _____, never about striving for a _____; the world will think it strange, but then again, this is the kind of servant leadership through which God can change the world!

"I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. I tell you the truth, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them."

John 13:15-17