The Big Picture

*Finding God’s Purposes in 1 Peter*

Pastor Toby • 4/23/2023

**A Word to Pastors**

1 Peter 5:1-4

Hear These Exhortations:

* Do the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (5:2a)
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ God’s people.
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + Exercise \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Do it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (5:2b-3)
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Do it for your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (5:4)
  + You’re just a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of you.
  + He will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you.

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Debrief Plan: 4/23/2023

**Icebreakers**:

1. If you could have dinner with any person, alive or dead, who would it be?
2. Can you think of a pastor who has been a great blessing to your spiritual life? What did he do to help you?

**Sermon Summary**: Pastors need to remember that God has called them to do the work of shepherding God’s people and exercising oversight over them. This important work must be done in a way that honors their Chief Shepherd, Jesus, and mimics his love and care for His people. In the end, under-shepherds do their work out of love for the Chief Shepherd, who cares for them and will reward them for their faithful service.

**Discussion Questions**:

1. Pastor Toby suggested that there are four actions that a pastor needs to engage in as he tries to shepherd God’s people. Which one do you think is the hardest and why?
2. Which of those four actions do church members tend to resist the most? Why do you think that is?
3. How can you tell if a pastor is serving willingly vs. serving begrudgingly?
4. What opportunities for “shameful gain” are there in the pastoral ministry? What role do the church members have in helping their pastors avoid this trap?
5. Why doesn’t “do as I say, not as I do” work in pastoral ministry?
6. What steps can pastors take to help themselves remember that they are sheep, too? Do church members have a role to play in this, too? If so, what is it?
7. How should 1 Peter 5:2-3 guide you to pray for and engage with your pastor?