



Life Group Questions

midlandevangelicalfreechurch
midlandfree.org/lifegroups



Date: Week of January 9, 2022

Scripture: *Shadowing the Shepherd* - 1 Peter 5:1-4

Review the Sermon:

- What aspect of the sermon was new to you?
- Was there any area you felt particularly poignant or convicting?
- Was there anything from the text that you felt was missing or overlooked?

Understanding Shepherding:

Dictionary Definition of a shepherd:

- *A person who herds, tends, and guards sheep. A person who protects, guides, or watches over a person or group of people. A member of the clergy.*

Shepherding - What is it?

- See **Ezekiel 34**; **John 10:11-15**; and **Revelation 7:15-17**.
- What constitutes shepherding as the Bible describes it?
- Are there any good synonyms for "shepherding?"
- Does the dictionary definition of shepherding capture the biblical definition?

Jesus - Our Example: John 10:7-15

- What does Jesus say about Himself?
- How is Jesus shepherding you?



Life Group Questions

midlandevangelicalfreechurch
midlandfree.org/lifegroups



Shepherding in the Church: Psalm 23

- What happens to sheep if they are left alone?
- Why are shepherds needed?
- Talk about good examples of shepherding you have experienced or seen.
- As you read Psalm 23, who needs shepherding around you?

Reconcile the various terms of Elder (presbyteros) /Pastor (poimén) /Shepherd (poimén) /Overseer (episkopeō) from **1 Peter 5:1-3** and **Acts 20:17, 28**.

- Are they synonyms or do they differ?

1 Peter 5:1-3 - Therefore, I urge elders (presbyteros) among you, as your fellow elder (sympresbyteros) and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and one who is also a fellow partaker of the glory that is to be revealed: shepherd (poimainō) the flock of God among you, exercising oversight (episkopeō), not under compulsion but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not with greed but with eagerness;

Acts 20:17, 28 - Miletus he sent word to Ephesus and called to himself the elders (presbyteros) of the church.

Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock (poimnion), among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers (episkopos), to shepherd (poimainō) the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.



Life Group Questions

midlandevangelicalfreechurch
midlandfree.org/lifegroups



- How do the character qualities listed in **1 Timothy 3:1-7**, and **Titus 1:6-9** match up with the fruit of the spirit in **Galatians 5:22-23**?
- How do these qualities aid in the role of a shepherd? Why?
- Considering the call to become an elder, which of the ways in which an elder is to carry out their office sticks out to you as incredibly vital? Why?

Shepherding by the Church:

Being a shepherd was a training ground for Joseph [**Genesis 37:2**], Moses [**Exodus 3:1; Acts 7:23-30**] and David [**Psalms 23**].

- What are some modern training grounds?
- We're all called to shepherd, what does that practically mean?
- How have you seen that played out in your life?
- How are you in turn shepherding others? II Corinthians 1:4.
- Does your shepherding change over time?

Shepherding in the Future: Revelation 7:15-17

- How will God shepherd us in heaven?
- Will it be different in heaven than it is now?