

Taking the Oversight

“...taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly...” (1 Pet. 5.2)

This passage of Scripture is focused at the responsibly of the elder to shepherd the flock of God. _____ shepherding should be present in different ways in the life of each believer:

- _____ Shepherding
- _____ Shepherding
- _____ Shepherding

The fact is well-realized that ... *all we like sheep have gone astray*. _____ individual is in need of shepherding. Recently, we heard a message on what Paternal Shepherding _____ (Instructs, Corrects, and Cares) and _____ (Submission, Separation, Settling, Solid Foundation, and Successful Pursuit). This morning, we will look at the Biblical attitudes that are necessary in order to take the oversight of our ministry (including our home).

The phrase “taking oversight” is the single word *episkopeo* which means “to have _____ over” or “to look upon.” In its noun form, is the English word *Bishop* (1 Tim. 3.1). The Pastor is to bishop the assembly. He is, therefore, to take the oversight. In a similar fashion, the father of the home is to bishop his home. Both are to do so in a _____ way, all the while being aware of the common pitfalls and perils of leadership.

* _____ Actions

- They must _____—one can not take oversight if they do not have any _____ what is going on. No one will be an accidental success (ex. Clint Longley).
- They must be an _____—if the sheep must follow, they must have an _____ to lead them.
- They must _____— oversight is most valuable when it is vigilance and _____ is present. Erratic shepherding may be more dangerous in some ways than an _____ shepherd.

* _____ Actions

- Attitude of _____—This is a reference to the drudgery of the task. Because it is not zealously _____, it is inconsistent. Some take ownership of their responsibilities only when they want, but not when they are _____. The shepherd of the home MUST be a willing shepherd.

- Attitude of _____ (filthy lucre) — Shepherding always has at its heart the action of _____. He does not shepherd in order to _____ a reward. Rather, his ministry is one of sacrificial endeavor.

- Attitude of _____ (lording) — The purpose for shepherding is to prepare for _____. We are not in the business of setting up a fiefdom. Ours is a ministry of influence TOWARD the things of God. In parenting, we are to _____ our home to the target God has set. (Psalm 127.4)

We cannot afford to absent in this ministry that God has entrusted us with. We are to shepherd our home. At times, this is a difficult task:

- Involves _____ —We can not afford to be lazy and allow _____ to continue. We must quit ourselves like men to DO RIGHT and PROMOTE RIGHT. Be an _____ of Biblical Truth not emotional _____.

- Involves _____— We can not afford to do spiritual _____ to the gifts God has given us. Our influence and directing ability is distinctly tethered to _____. Continual failure, personally or Biblically, will jeopardize our ability to lead.

- Involves _____— We can not afford to be content with complacency. We must endeavor to led our sister (wives—1 Cor. 9.5) and children to in the _____ of God. These fruitful pastures are the destination. Do not settle for the common; give care to how you build. (1 Cor. 3.10)

Take the oversight. Marriage and parental responsibilities are great responsibilities. In many ways, they are the legacy that we will leave. Might we give attention to the detailed encouragement and instruction so that we can enable the precious ones to be on a plain path.