

Sermon Notes 11/9/25

# **The Chief Shepherd**

## **El Príncipe de los Pastores**

**How can we be like the Chief Shepherd?**  
**¿Cómo podemos ser como el Príncipe Pastor?**

1. Let's care for God's \_\_\_\_\_.  
Cuidemos del \_\_\_\_\_ de Dios.

1 Peter 5:2 (1 Pedro 5:2)  
Acts 20:28 (Hechos 20:28)  
1 Peter 1:22 (1 Pedro 1:22)  
1 Peter 4:8-9 (1 Pedro 4:8-9)

2. Let's lead by our \_\_\_\_\_.  
Lideremos con nuestro \_\_\_\_\_.

1 Peter 5:3 (1 Pedro 5:3)  
Mark 10:42-45 (Marcos 10:42-45)  
John 13:12-15 (Juan 13:12-15)

3. Let's clothe ourselves with \_\_\_\_\_.  
Vamos a vestirnos de \_\_\_\_\_.

1 Peter 5:5 (1 Pedro 5:5)  
Philippians 2:3-8 (Filipenses 2:3-8)  
1 Peter 5:6-7 (1 Pedro 5:6-7)  
1 Peter 5:4 (1 Pedro 5:4)



# Life Group Discussion Questions

Week 10: November 9-16

1 Peter 5:1-7

In the first part of chapter 5, Peter helps church leaders to care for God's people in difficult times. He describes the church as "God's flock" and Jesus as the "Chief Shepherd." He also gives instructions to all Christians, encouraging us to be humble and cast all our cares on the Lord because He cares for us. As we think about Jesus as our Chief Shepherd and realize that we are His sheep, we should be encouraged knowing how much He loves and cares for His sheep. In John 10:11, Jesus said, "I am the good Shepherd. The good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." Allen Black writes,

The advice to elders and the subsequent verse about humble Christian relationships may seem out of place between two paragraphs about suffering as a Christian. However, in this situation in which Christians suffer as a persecuted minority, it is vital for them to maintain strong leadership and strong relationships with each other. The importance of how these Christians relate to each other has already been emphasized in 1:22; 2:1-5; 3:8; and 4:8-11. (Black, 127)

## Read 1 Peter 5:1-7

1. How did Peter describe himself in verse 1?
2. How did Peter describe church leaders? (5:1-2)

There are three different Greek words the New Testament uses to describe the ministry of elders. *Presbuteros* is the word for "elder." *Episkopos* is the word for "overseer" or "bishop." *Poimen* is the word for "shepherd" or "pastor." All three of these words are used to refer to the same ministry (Acts 20:17-28; 1 Peter 5:1-2). David Helm observes,

We can only imagine the richness that this term shepherd had for Peter. Do you remember Peter's early confidence? He felt qualified to lead, he was gifted to lead, but when it counted most, he denied Christ three times. After the resurrection, Jesus asked him three times if he loved him, and Peter responded, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you" (John 21:15-17). Interestingly, each time Jesus spoke, he wooed Peter with the imagery of a shepherd and his flock. He said to him, "Feed my lambs.... Tend my sheep.... Feed my sheep."

Take great encouragement from this—on the day Peter didn't feel able to lead, God restored him, called him, and made him fit for the office. And he will equip men for the same office today. God will continue to raise up qualified men to shepherd his flock. And like Peter, these men will express their love for Christ by extending themselves in love to God's people. (Helm, 160-161)

3. What did Peter tell the elders to do in verse 2?
4. What should be our motivation to serve God's people? (5:2)
5. What did Peter tell the elders not to do in verse 3?
6. What did Peter tell the elders to do in verse 3?
7. What will faithful elders receive when the Chief Shepherd appears? (5:4)

Wayne Grudem comments,

Peter mentions this unfading crown of glory specifically when speaking to “elders,” and when speaking of a reward which is given in the age to come, following after a description of righteous conduct in the exercise of the office of elder during this life. Moreover, the term glory carries the nuance of an outwardly visible evidence of honor. Finally, the “twenty-four elders” in Revelation have “golden crowns” (Rev. 4:4) which they cast before God's throne (Rev. 4:10) – even though these are not identical to the elders in local churches to whom Peter is writing, the “crowns” there are none the less marks of honor said to be possessed by particular individuals, not by all. (Grudem, 197-198)

8. What are young men commanded to do in verse 5?

Black notes,

It is probable that by “younger ones” Peter means those—men and women—who are not elders, with an emphasis on the fact that most of them are younger than the elders. Peter is exhorting the churches to submit (ὑποτάσσω, *hypotassō*) to their elders, whom he has already identified as having the responsibility of shepherding and overseeing the flock. (Black, 132)

9. What are all Christians commanded to do in verse 5? Why?
10. What will God do if we humble ourselves under His mighty hand? (5:6)

Blake observes,

The lifting up Peter has in mind is presumably the same exaltation he spoke of in 4:13 (“But rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed”) and will speak of in 5:10 (“And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace,... will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you,” NRSV). All three passages have the pattern of suffering followed by exaltation. All three speak of eternal life. (Black, 134)

11. Why should we cast our anxieties on the Lord? (5:7)
12. What comes to mind when you think of Jesus as our Chief Shepherd?
13. When have you been entrusted with leadership responsibilities?
14. What does it mean for church leaders to care for God’s flock?
15. In what ways should all Christians care for God’s flock?
16. When have you noticed children (or adults) following your example?
17. How can we clothe ourselves with humility toward one another?
18. How can we cast our anxieties on the Lord in a way that truly gives us peace?
19. How will you lead by your example this week?
20. How will you care for God’s flock this week?

**Sources cited:**

Black, Allen, and Mark Black. *1 & 2 Peter*. College Press, 1998.

Cottrell, Jack. *Studies in First Peter*. Christian Restoration Association, 2017.

Grudem, Wayne. *1 Peter*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2009.

Helm, David R. *1–2 Peter and Jude*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2015.