

Different Different Leadership

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

5 Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as your fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed,² shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness;³ nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.⁵ You younger men, likewise, be subject to your elders; and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. **1 Peter 5:1-5 NASB**

Big Idea: In light of the suffering and trials of life in store for the Christian, Peter exhorts the elders and leaders of the church to shepherd with a spirit of humility.

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- How do you think elders join in the suffering of Christ like Peter in verse 1?
- Why is character as or more important for leadership than aptitude?

Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- What does it mean for you to subject yourself to the elders?
- Why is this important for the health of the church?

Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- How can we clothe ourselves in humility toward one another?
- How have we failed in this and where do we need to repent?
- What are the consequences for being proud?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power.

God, we need strong leaders who aren't made of cotton candy. We need men and women with backbone, fortitude, common sense, deep conviction, holy lives, a burning love for Jesus, and deep love for the whole family of God. We pray for our leaders. We pray for our elders. We pray for our pastors. We pray for everyone who leads this church. Lord we ask that you rise up more I Peter 5 leaders. Amen.

Start Doing. Here are a few ways to move toward keeping a God-centered perspective on submission to authorities in our lives.

1. Recognize God's authority structure as revealed in Scripture.
2. Pray for the leaders God has placed over you.
3. Repent of any grumbling in your own heart.
4. Pray for a posture of submission and respect to those in authority over you.
5. Guard your tongue from complaining, gossip or slander.
6. Look for ways to speak well of those in authority over you, even if you don't agree with their decision.
7. Find ways to come alongside your leaders, encouraging and helping them in the weighty task they've been given.

Dinner Discussion.

- How can you move toward keeping a God-centered perspective on submission to authorities in your life?
- Which area do you need to specifically start or stop doing to

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over online.

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