LAY SHEPHERD ALL-STAR

Gary Ogrosky

SHEPHERDING MEETING • MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9



Practical Tips for Shepherds

Gary Ogrosky

Tip #1

Reach out early,

Reach out often



When, why, how?

Tip #2

Listen well,

Listen redemptively



Encourage your sheep to see
how God is working in their life.

“Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”

Hebrews 4:16



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Jim Sanborn

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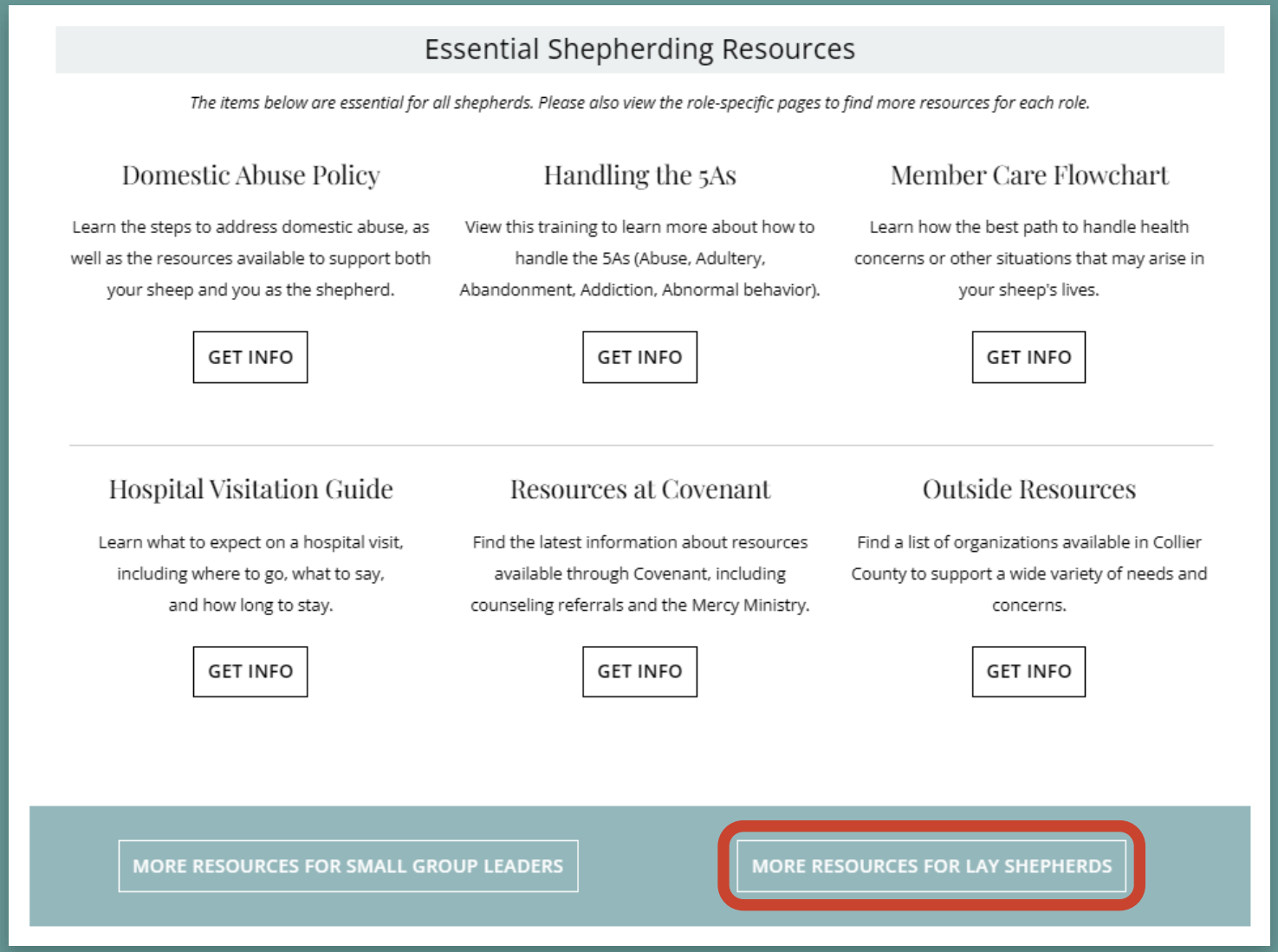

Essential Shepherding Resources

The items below are essential for all shepherds. Please also view the role-specific pages to find more resources for each role.

Domestic Abuse Policy

Learn the steps to address domestic abuse, as well as the resources available to support both your sheep and you as the shepherd.

GET INFO

Handling the 5As

View this training to learn more about how to handle the 5As (Abuse, Adultery, Abandonment, Addiction, Abnormal behavior).

GET INFO

Member Care Flowchart

Learn how the best path to handle health concerns or other situations that may arise in your sheep's lives.

GET INFO

Hospital Visitation Guide

Learn what to expect on a hospital visit, including where to go, what to say, and how long to stay.

GET INFO

Resources at Covenant

Find the latest information about resources available through Covenant, including counseling referrals and the Mercy Ministry.

GET INFO

Outside Resources

Find a list of organizations available in Collier County to support a wide variety of needs and concerns.

GET INFO

MORE RESOURCES FOR SMALL GROUP LEADERS

MORE RESOURCES FOR LAY SHEPHERDS

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Resources for Lay Shepherds

Viewing Your Sheep

Learn how to view everyone in your lay shepherding group, see their contact information, and make updates to the group.

GET INFO

Conversation Tips

Learn how to start a conversation with a brand-new sheep, as well as ways to move the conversation deeper.

GET INFO

One-Way Communication

Learn from the Old Testament prophets to persevere even when it feels like communication is only happening one way.

GET INFO

LESSONS FROM THE PROPHETS: ONE-WAY COMMUNICATIONS

LESSONS FROM THE PROPHETS: ONE WAY COMMUNICATIONS

Challenge:

Shepherds get discouraged when they don't get any response from members, despite repeated attempts to make contact or keep in touch.

Response:

Maintain effort and don't lose heart by drawing from the experience of the Old Testament prophets who often faced being ignored, ridiculed or even persecuted by the people the Lord called them to serve.

Strategy:

Learn from the prophets to excel in "one way communication" so the message goes out even if it is not responded to by your members.

THE MODEL:

Jeremiah 7:27

"So you shall speak all these words to them,
but they will not listen to you.
You shall call to them, but they will not answer you.

Jeremiah gives us an example of being faithful to our calling and to delivering God's message. We can only do our part in obedience, but we do not control the response or outcome.

Why don't people respond?

1. They are not familiar with what a shepherd does and how to respond.
2. They are shy or private people.
3. They are new to Covenant and not ready to engage.
4. They already have a strong support network, so they don't see the need for a shepherd.

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LESSONS FROM THE PROPHETS: ONE WAY COMMUNICATIONS

How do you create connection opportunities with one-way communication?

1. Provide information on what is going on at Covenant such as a new series or important church news.
2. Recognize occasions such as birthdays and anniversaries, including sad occasions, that mean a lot to people.
3. Reach out with a "non-occasion" note, text or email that tells them you are thinking of them.
4. Connect with them on social media.

The Benefits of One-Way Communication

1. It encourages us to pray for our members
2. It helps to strengthen our shepherding teams as we share our concerns for people and pray in community.
3. It sharpens our focus on why we are shepherds.

Conclusions

Learn the lessons from the prophets, and in so doing, honor the Great Shepherd by being faithful to your call.

Galatians 6:9
And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.

Ezekiel 2:5
I will send you to them. Whether they hear or refuse to listen they will know a prophet [shepherd] has been among them.

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★Jamin Eastman★

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