

The Local Flock

Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-4

Who is entrusted with the work of shepherding a local church? What names are used to describe this role?

What responsibilities do they have toward the local flock? What should their attitude and motivation be in this work?

1 Timothy 3:1-7

How would you summarize the qualifications given for local shepherds? What type of men does God want to serve in this role?

Ezekiel 34:1-6

What are the shepherds of Israel rebuked for here?

What does this description of failed shepherds teach us about the work that a spiritual shepherd should be involved in?

Where there are no qualified men to serve as shepherds, how should this work be done and these types of needs be addressed? (**Acts 14:21-23; Gal 6:1-2; Heb 3:12-13; etc.**)

The Flock of God

Ezekiel 34:11-24

What is the first task that God (Jesus) will undertake as our Shepherd? (**vv. 11-13**; cf. *Matt 9:36*; *Luke 15:4-7*)

How is Jesus' continued work as our Shepherd described? What will He provide for us? (**vv. 14-16**)

What responsibility do these sheep have for one another? In what way will Jesus judge His sheep? (**vv. 17-22**)

John 10:1-16

What two illustrations does Jesus use here to describe His relationship to His disciples? (**vv. 9, 11**)

How does Jesus' relationship to the sheep as the Good Shepherd differ from that of the thief and the hired hand? What is His motive? What does this drive Him to do on behalf of the sheep?

What is required of us as Jesus' sheep? How must we interact with Him as our Shepherd? (**vv. 3-4, 9**)