



Job Description: The Office of Pastor

The office of Pastor-teacher is the Lord Christ's gift to his bride (Eph 4:11). As is evident from its title & Christ's command, it is our Lord's desire that those who occupy it would shepherd the flock of God (1 Pet 5:1-4; Acts 20:28).

As such, any man who would execute the office must first be a shepherd:

1. Personal

- a. Develop and maintain a lifestyle of personal godliness. Continually grow in the character prerequisites of 1 Tim 3 & Tit 1.
- b. Set aside time each day to delight in God through personal worship, Bible study, and prayer.
- c. Grow in theological understanding and skill.
- d. Attend an annual Pastor's Retreat with peers for mutual encouragement, accountability, and ministerial sharpening.

2. Family

- a. Pastor his family as his first ministry responsibility. Lead and train his family in repentance, faith, and worship.
- b. Spend adequate time with family during the evenings (no more than 2 evenings per week absent due to ministry related activities), weekends, vacations, etc.

Further, a Pastor-teacher must perform the duties of a shepherd:

3. Call Goats to be Sheep

- a. Lead the church in communicating the gospel to those who do not know Christ (think strategically about outreach in the community, implement plans which utilize the church's resources and people, etc.)
- b. Practice personal evangelism and train others to do the same.
- c. Gather other sheep to assemble with the flock.

4. Know the Sheep

- a. Become well acquainted with the members of the church by whatever means seem most appropriate (hospitality, fellowship, visitation, recreation, etc.).
- b. Be available for the sheep.
- c. Study the flock's contextual setting. Interact with culturally influential materials through whatever means deemed most helpful.

5. Feed the Sheep

- a. Conduct a robust ministry of expository preaching and teaching of the word of God.
- b. Set aside sufficient time each week (approx 15 hours) for the study necessary for this kind of ministry.
- c. Administer the sacraments when appropriate.

6. Lead the Sheep

- a. Develop and communicate a Biblical vision for our particular church and direct the church in it.
- b. Plan, lead, and oversee the worship of the church.
- c. Pastor and be pastored by the officers of the church.
- d. Serve on the Session.
- e. Attend and represent the church at all meetings of the Presbytery and General Assembly (approx every other year). Serve on no more than one permanent committee of Presbytery, and no more than one commission or ad interim committee at a time.
- f. Conduct weddings and funerals for members and regular attenders of the church as required.
- g. Oversee the operations of the church.

7. Protect the Sheep

- a. Pray for all of the sheep by name on a regular basis.
- b. Oversee the spiritual well being of the members through pastoral care.
- c. Be available to provide counseling as needed.
- d. Rule and judge in cases of corrective discipline as necessary.