

Questions for Reflection and Discussion

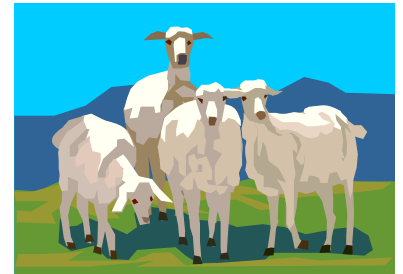
Shepherding God's Flock

Getting Started

Why do you think one of the most common metaphors for God's people – in both the Old and New Testaments – is sheep?

Digging In

1. **Read 1 Peter 5:1-4.** What three terms are used for church leaders in these verses?
2. What significance do you see in each of these terms?
3. In verse 2 Peter calls the church **God's flock**. How can this reminder be both an encouragement and a challenge for the elders?
4. Peter gives several instructions for **how** the elders are to shepherd God's flock. List those on the back.
5. **Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7.** What does it mean to set one's heart on being an overseer? Why is this a noble task?
6. On the back, make a list of each of the qualifications given in verses 2-7.
7. Now write a brief paraphrase of each of these qualifications.
8. How do these qualifications compare with the way leadership is commonly seen in the world? What are the similarities and differences?
9. Why is godly leadership essential for those who would shepherd God's flock?



Getting Personal

- Although the list of qualifications in 1 Timothy 3 is specifically given for elders, almost all of these are qualities that God desires for **every** believer. In which of these areas are you doing fairly well?
- In which of these areas are you falling short?
- Which of these qualities would you most like to see God develop in your life?