

Living in Exile: Spiritual Leadership
I Peter 5:1-5

I Peter 5:1-5 *So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."*

Question #1: What is spiritual leadership?

"Spiritual leadership is moving people onto God's agenda." - **Henry Blackaby**

"Spiritual leadership is not a calling we choose to pursue; it is a calling we choose to answer. We don't decide to become leaders; we decide to respond and keep responding to God's call in our lives." - **J. Oswald Sanders**

Question #2: What is the heart of the pastors as they lead?

-Pastors should lead with a willing heart.

I Peter 5:2 *shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you*

-Pastors should lead with a giving heart.

I Peter 5:2 *not for shameful gain, but eagerly*

I Corinthians 9:14 *In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel.*

I Timothy 5:17-18 *Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain," and, "The laborer deserves his wages."*

III John 4 *I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.*

-Pastors should lead with a transformed heart.

I Peter 5:3 *not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.*

"The life-giving preacher is a man of God, whose heart is ever a thirst for God, whose soul is ever following hard after God, whose eye is single to God, and in whom by the power of God's Spirit the flesh and the world have been crucified and his ministry is like the generous flood of a life-giving river." - **E.M. Bounds**

-Pastors should lead with a heart that desires to please Jesus.

I Peter 5:4 *And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.*

“In a healthy church Jesus is the most famous person.”- **Lance Witt**

Question #3: What is the heart of the people as they follow?

-Submission

I Peter 5:5 *Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders.*

Hebrews 13:17 *Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.*

Question #4: What is the heart of the relationship between pastors and the people they lead?

-Humility

I Peter 5:5 *Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”*