



LEADING & FOLLOWING

God's people tend to
wander off

God has always provided
leaders



THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH TWENTY

God's Powerful Church

lesser light to rule the night. He made
17 And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light
earth,
18 And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the
darkness: and God saw that it was good.
19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.
20 And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creat-
hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of
heaven.
21 And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which
the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl
after his kind: and God saw that it was good.
22 And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in
and let fowl multiply in the earth.
... were the fifth day.
... after his kind.

Powerful

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Leadership in the church

First, we talk about
what shouldn't be

Secondly, we talk only
about qualifications





Qualification for the Office of President:

"No person except a natural born citizen shall be eligible to the office of President; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of 35 years and been 14 years a resident within the United States." (Article II, section 1, US Constitution)



Of all the animals in
God's creation, the Lord
refers to us as sheep


Sheep do not defend themselves

Sheep can wander off

Sheep get scared

Sheep need a someone
to help them





This is a Divine appointment

Acts 20:28 Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock,

It involves working with God's people



overseers, to shepherd the church of

God gave His life for these people

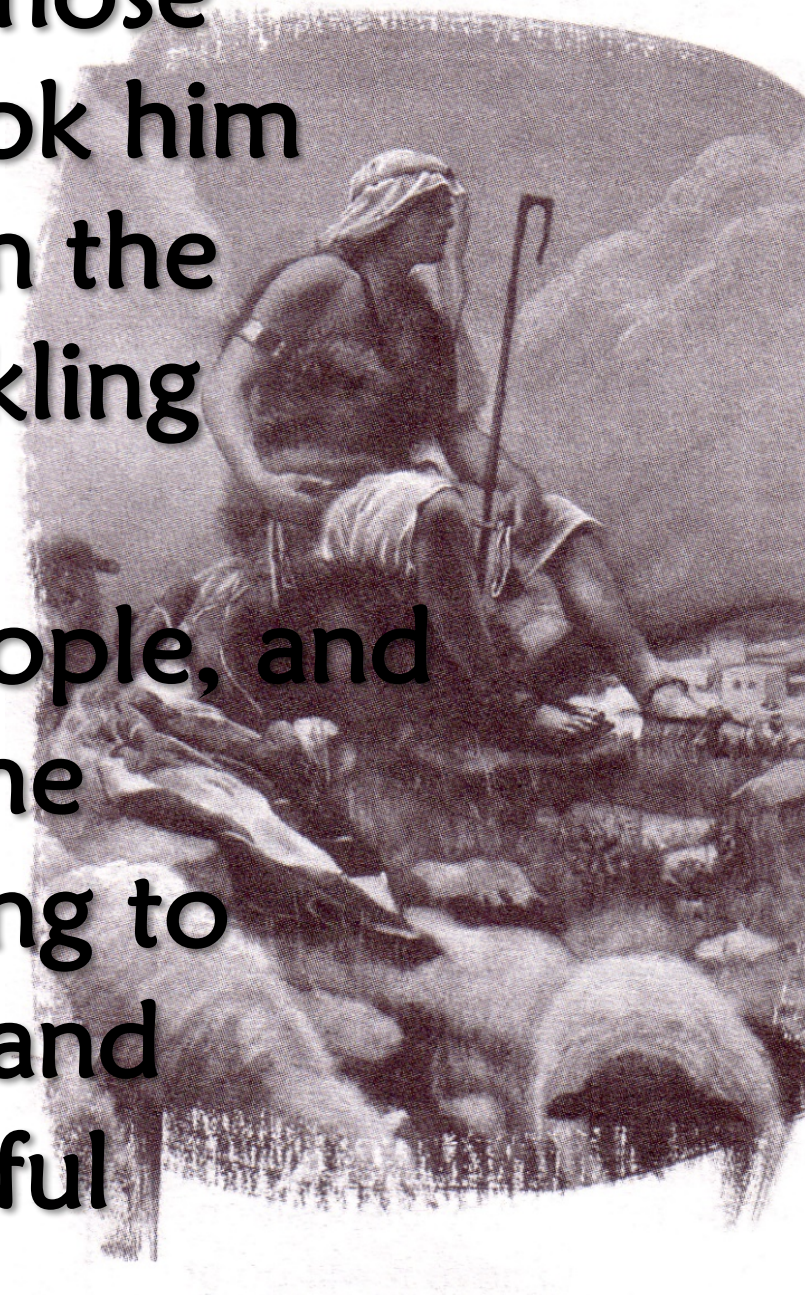


own blood.

1 Peter 5:2 shepherd the flock of
God among you, exercising
oversight not under compulsion,
but voluntarily, according to *the*
will of God; and not for sordid
gain, but with eagerness;



Psalm 78:70-72 He also chose David His servant and took him from the sheepfolds; From the care of the ewes with suckling lambs He brought him to shepherd Jacob His people, and Israel His inheritance. So he shepherded them according to the integrity of his heart, and guided them with his skillful hands.



John 10:2-4 But he who enters by the door is a shepherd of the sheep. To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he puts forth all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

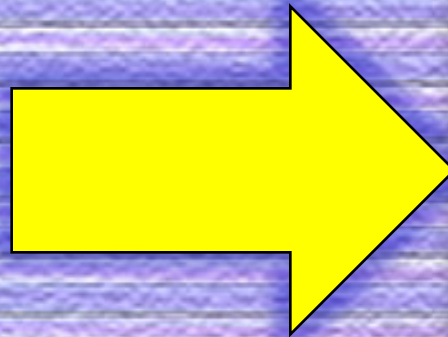




Four passages:

Ezekiel 34; Psalms 23; Proverbs
27 and Acts 6

There has been a shift away from the Biblical pattern to a business concept in the past few generations



*The thrust of many elders
has shifted from
shepherding to overseeing
the complex*

Decision Making
(mostly physical)

Administration

Money
Building
Schedules
Maintenance

Focus of
overseeing

Deacons



Ezekiel 34:2-10



Feed the flock (2, 3)

Strengthen the sickly (4)

Healed the diseased (4)

Bind up the broken (4)

Bring back the scattered (4)

Seek the lost (4)

Their attitudes and manner was
wrong

Force, severity and dominance (4)



**1 Thessalonians 5:14 We urge you,
brethren, admonish the unruly,
encourage the fainthearted, help the
weak, be patient with everyone.**



**Proverbs 27:23 Know well
the condition of your flocks, *And* pay
attention to your herds**



The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.² He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters.³ He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.⁴ Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life, And I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.



Acts 6:1-4



1. The apostles did not ignore the complaint
2. The apostles did not decide who was going to fix this problem
3. The apostles didn't tell the chosen ones what to do

All living things will grow if three things
take place

- (a) Proper diet
- (b) Regular exercise
- (c) Fight diseases



It means keeping both eyes open

It means dealing with complaints

It means getting messy with problems

It means being calm when others
are fearful

It means knowing what to do when
others are doubting

It means having a plan and
knowing how to accomplish
that plan



**It means praying and staying
close to the book**

**It means having the heart of a
servant**





Matthew 9:36 Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd.

The Concept of Shepherding

