



Lesson 11: Church Leadership Pt. 2

Text: Ephesians 4:7-16

Key Thought: God gifts His church with people who lead.

1. In the last lesson, we discussed two of the spiritual leaders found in our text. In this lesson, we will discuss the rest. The third leader Paul mentions are evangelists (*Ephesians 4:11*). The Greek word translated evangelist literally means preacher of the Gospel. These are men that may have other roles, but who are especially gifted at sharing the good news. They are traveling preachers who support the work of local churches. Some believe that missionaries and church planters are also evangelists. Billy Graham is perhaps the most well-known evangelist in American history. Discover a unique fact or two about his ministry you can share with the group.

A.

Who are the two most prominent men associated with the term evangelists in the scriptures?
(*2 Timothy 4:5, Acts 21:8*)

A.

2. Most scholars believe the term evangelist speaks more of a function, than it does an office. Does having "some" evangelists mean the rest of us are not obligated to share the gospel? Why or why not? (*Matthew 4:18-19, Mark 16:15, 2 Corinthians 5:17-21*)

A.

3. The last spiritual leader Paul mentions in our text are pastors and teachers (*Ephesians 4:11*). Most scholars believe these two offices are closely connected and inseparable. The word pastor is translated from the Greek word "poimen" (*poy-mane'*) and means shepherd. What do we learn about shepherds in the following scriptures?

Matthew 9:35-36

A.

John 10:11-13

A.

4. Why is referring to a local church pastor as a shepherd a fitting description?

A.

In what ways are church members like sheep?

A.

5. Along with protecting the flock, shepherds/pastors have the responsibility of "Leading" and "Feeding" the flock (*1 Peter 5:1-3*). Let's consider some of the characteristics of "godly" shepherds/pastors found in this text. How will these things be evident or obvious to others?

They serve as "overseers".

A.

They serve willingly.

A.

They don't serve simply for the money.

A.

They serve as good examples.

A.

6. As we've already discussed, shepherds/pastors are called to lead the flock to places of safety. They are also called to lead the flock to green pastures. Because the Word of God is our sole source of spiritual food shepherds/pastors must not skimp on the portions they present from the pulpit. What is the danger in having shepherds that don't prioritize the preaching and teaching of the Word of God? (*2 Timothy 4:2-4*)

A.

7. Shepherds/pastors are called to feed the flock (*1 Peter 5:2*). What we can safely assume to be true is that sheep will be hungry. What are we to make of "sheep" who are never hungry for God's Word?

A.

What are some practical steps we can take to make sure we are hungry for spiritual food?

A.