

SERMON NOTES

FAITHFUL LEADERS

1 PETER 5:1-5

OCTOBER 4, 2026

SENIOR PASTOR

TIM HARKNESS



I. Godly elders _____ Jesus as great examples and willingly shepherd the church. (1-3)

II. _____ elders know their position as “under-shepherd” and serve Jesus the Chief Shepherd. (4)

IMPACT GROUP QUESTIONS

KEY PASSAGE: 1 PETER 5:1-5

Opening: What truths impacted you most from the sermon/passage? *Godly elders follow Jesus as great examples and willingly shepherd the church; Godly elders know their position as “under-shepherd” and serve Jesus the Chief Shepherd; Clothe yourselves with humility toward one another.*

INFORM THE HEAD/STIR THE HEART

Please read 1 Peter 5:1-5 and answer the following questions:

1. By what authority did Peter exhort the elders about their role in the church? How do you think the reasons Peter gave would have impacted the elders?

2. In verse 2, Peter called the believers in the church “the flock of God.” Why do you think it’s important to include the words “of God” in relation to shepherding the church?

3. According to verses 2-3, in what ways were the elders called to shepherd the flock of God?

a. What were they called TO do?

b. What were they called NOT to do?

c. What would the danger be for each aspect of their role if they were to do the opposite?

4. According to verse 4, what motivation was given for the elders in shepherding the flock?

5. How would having the younger believers “be subject” to the elders serve as a protection for them?

6. Why do you think Peter told ALL of them to clothe themselves with humility “toward one another”? Please give an example of what being humble “toward one another” practically looks like...

a. In conflict.

b. In decision making.

c. In desires.

7. Please explain how and why God would oppose the proud, especially in how we treat each other. Why would He give grace to the humble, specifically as it impacts our relationships with each other?

8. What do you learn about the kind of Chief Shepherd God is from this passage? What encourages you? What surprises you?

CHALLENGE THE WILL

What is one thing from this passage that you will apply to your life—in your actions, thoughts, or desires—to better center your worship on the Lord?

WEEKLY READING PLAN

Monday, October 5 // John 21:15-23

Feed My Sheep

Tuesday, October 6 // 1 Timothy 3:1-13

Desire a Noble Task

Wednesday, October 7 // Mark 10:35-45

The Greatest Will Serve

Thursday, October 8 // Titus 1:5-16

Be Sound in Faith

Friday, October 9 // 1 Thessalonians 2:15-3:5

The War is On!