

Standing Firm: Study of 1 Peter
“How to be a S.W.E.E.T. Leader”
1 Peter 5:1-4
November 19, 2017 / Pastor Shawn

Spiritual leaders in the local church are called Elders.

†To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed:

1 Peter 5:1

◆ **Presbyteros (*pres-bü'-te-ros*):** Elder; older ones who lead because of experience

An Elder is: someone who has been given the responsibility of looking after the spiritual growth and maturity of people in the church

Spiritual Leadership that is S.W.E.E.T. is:

S - shepherds

²Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them
1 Peter 5:2a

Spiritual Shepherds (based on John 10)

- a) Has sheep (John 10:3a)
- b) Lives in relationship w/his sheep (John 10:3b)
- c) Guides his sheep (John 10:3c-4)
- d) Protects his sheep (John 10:7)
- e) Provides for his sheep (John 10:10)
- f) Gives his life for his sheep (John 10:11)
- g) Owns his sheep (John 10:12-13)

W - willingly Shepherds

². . . not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be;
1 Peter 5:2b

E - agerly Serves

². . . not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve;
1 Peter 5:2c

◆ **Prothymōs (*pro-thü'-mōs*):** eager;readiness;fiercely passionate

E - sample to Follow

³. . . not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.
1 Peter 5:3

- I've lifted myself to the highest level possible.**
- I've lifted others to the highest level possible.**

T - rust in God's Promises

⁴And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.
1 Peter 5:5

◆ **Archipoimēn (*är-khē-poi'-mān*):** Arch-Shepherd;Chief Shepherd

Discussion Questions

1. What was your “A-Ha” from Sunday’s Message? Why?
2. Of the traits Pastor Shawn outlined for Spiritual Leaders, which one(s) are the hardest and easiest for you to practice? Why?
3. To whom do you turn when your back hits-the-wall? What specific names come to mind? Jot down the names of the first three people you think of. Are the Church Elders on your list?
 - a. “I know _____, _____, _____ well. I already have some relationship with them.”
 - b. “I see _____, _____, _____ as experienced and competent enough to give wise, biblical counsel.”
 - c. “_____ , _____, _____ are available. I can always find them.”
 - d. “_____ , _____, _____ are approachable. I find it comfortable to be open with them.”
 - e. “_____ , _____, _____ are hospitable, express love to me in several ways, and often create opportunities for conversation.”
 - f. “I have watched _____, _____, _____ make sound spiritual decisions in their own lives.”
 - g. “_____ , _____, _____ know the Word of God.”
 - h. “_____ , _____, _____ are respected by the people I most admire.”
4. Compare your leadership motives to the motivation Peter lists. How do you score on Peter’s leadership test? (*When you lead do you: remember Christ’s sufferings? lead out of obligation or privilege? motivated by will of God or men? driven by personal gain or godly passion? does your life example influence others positively? can you wait for the ultimate reward or must you see immediate payback?*)
5. How may your Group help you grow in your leadership?