

Sermon Series Topics:

The Eldership of the Church

- What is a Shepherd? (*August 14th AM Sermon*)
- What are Sheep? (*August 14th PM Sermon*)
- The Shepherd Watches the Sheep. (*August 21st Sermon*)
- The Shepherd Leads the Sheep (*August 21st PM Sermon*)
- The Shepherd Protects the Sheep (*August 28th AM Sermon*)
- The Shepherd Feeds the Sheep (*September 4th AM Sermon*)
- The Shepherd Knows the Sheep (*September 4th PM Sermon*)

The Deacons of the Church

- Servanthood at its finest (*September 11th AM Sermon*)
- The Efficiency of the Church (*September 11th PM Sermon*)

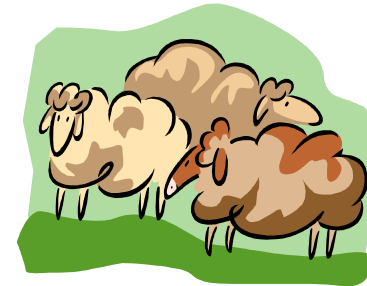
The Preachers of the Church

- Minister, Preacher, Evangelist: Which is it? (*September 18th AM Sermon*)
- What Preacher's wish the Church knew about Preaching (*September 18th PM Sermon*)

*Strengthening the Church by
Strengthening the Leadership*

What are Sheep?

*Strengthening the Church by
Strengthening the Leadership*



Acts 20:28–32

Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

Great References to Sheep in the Bible

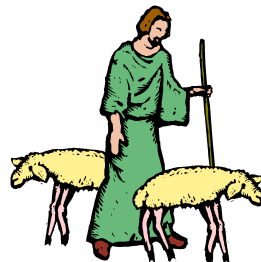
- The Jewish people were referred to as sheep (Psalm 74:1).
- Lost people are figuratively called sheep (Matthew 9:36).
- Followers of Christ are called sheep (John 10:1-16).
- Members of the church are called sheep (Acts 20:28).
- Most notable: Jesus is referred to as the “lamb that takes away the sins of the world.” (John 1:29)

Uses for sheep

- Sheep were cleaned and used for food (Deuteronomy 14:4; see also 1 Samuel 25:18; 1 Kings 1:19, Nehemiah 5:18).
- Milk was obtained from sheep for food (Deuteronomy 32:14; 1 Corinthians 9:7).
- Sheep skins were worn as clothing (Hebrews 11:37).
- Sheep skins were used as a covering for the tabernacle (Exodus 25:5; 36:10; 39:34)
- Sheep’s wool was made into clothing (Job 31:20).

Notable Facts about Sheep

- Sheep constituted great wealth (Genesis 13:5; 24:25; 26:14).
- A tithe of sheep was given to the Levites (2 Chronicles 31:4-6)
- Sheep were also given as presents (2 Samuel 17:29; 1 Chronicles 12:40)



Christian’s are the Spiritual Sheep of Today:

- The word sheep makes a spiritual transition to take the meaning of the people seeking the presences of God
 - (John 10:1-18)
 - People wonder from God like sheep from a shepherd (Psalm 119:176; Isaiah 53:6).

The Importance of Spiritual Shepherds Today:

- Today’s sheep need guarded.
 - (Acts 20:28)
 - False Prophets will appear as simple sheep (Matthew 7:15)
- Today’s sheep need spiritual shepherds.
 - Jesus instructed Peter to feed the sheep (John 21:15-19)
 - Interesting note: When Jesus asked Peter the first two times, “Do you love me?” the word agape was used.
 - Peter responded with phileo instead of agape.
 - The last time Jesus asked is Peter loved him and he used the term phileo.
- Today’s sheep must be found in the flock of God.
 - (Luke 15:3-7, see also, Matthew 18:11-13)
 - The shepherd will separate the sheep from the goats (Matthew 25:32,33).