

**CBC MEN'S RETREAT, SESSION TWO
SHEPHERDING STARTS EARLY**

February 16-17, 2018

INTRODUCTION

**IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME OF YOU YOUNG MEN ARE VERY MUCH AT EASE,
ASSUMING ALL THIS SHEPHERDING / LEADING STUFF IS FOR THE OLD GOATS –
THINK AGAIN!**

THINK PROVERBS

Dr. Bruce Waltke: "Proverbs is for little princes and princesses."

Proverbs 1: two paths (choices made early)

Proverbs 2: Pursue wisdom as precious treasure

The friends you make will shape you.

THINK JOSEPH AT AGE 17

THINK DANIEL

THINK JESUS AT 12

THINK DAVID – 1 SAMUEL 17

In my experience overseas, shepherding is usually done by the young.

²⁸ Now Eliab his oldest brother heard when he spoke to the men; and **Eliab's anger burned against David and he said, "Why have you come down? And with whom have you left those few sheep in the wilderness? I know your insolence and the wickedness of your heart; for you have come down in order to see the battle."** (1 Sam. 17:28 NAU)

³⁴ But David said to Saul, "Your servant was tending his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and took a lamb from the flock, ³⁵ I went out after him and attacked him, and rescued *it* from his mouth; and when he rose up against me, I seized *him* by his beard and struck him and killed him. ³⁶ **Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, since he has taunted the armies of the living God.**" ³⁷ And David said, **The LORD who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.**" And Saul said to David, "Go, and may the LORD be with you." (1 Sam. 17:34-37 NAU)

BAD SHEPHERDS VS. THE GOOD SHEPHERD – EZEKIEL 34:1-16

GOOD SHEPHERDING INVOLVES A RADICAL CHANGE OF MIND

ROMANS 12:1-2

EPHESIANS 4:17-32

SUCH A MINDSET LEADS TO AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT RESPONSE TO THOSE WHO ARE WEAK, VULNERABLE, AND IN NEED:

28 He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need (Ephesians 4:28, NASB).

6 Likewise urge the young men to be sensible; 7 in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, *with* purity in doctrine, dignified, 8 sound *in* speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us (Titus 2:6-8, NASB).

GOOD SHEPHERDS, LIKE GOD, HAVE A SPECIAL COMPASSION TOWARD THE WEAK, THE HURTING, THE VULNERABLE (ALIENS, WIDOWS, ORPHANS)

Deuteronomy 14:29

Psalms 146:9

Isaiah 1:17, 23

Matthew 25:36

James 1:27

Galatians 2:10

IT ISN'T JUST WOMEN WHO ARE WEAKER (THOUGH THEY ARE – 1 PETER 3:7). A SHEPHERD LOOKS OUT FOR AND CARES FOR THE WEAK, A FAR CRY FROM THE BULLYING (Ezek. 34:20-22) WHICH IS SO COMMON.

BEING IDENTIFIED WITH CHRIST MEANS THAT WE ARE TO TREAT YOUNGER WOMEN LIKE SISTERS, AND RATHER THAN TAKING ADVANTAGE OF WOMEN AS THE WEAKER SEX, WE ARE TO PROTECT THEM, INCLUDING THEIR SEXUAL PURITY.

3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification; *that is*, that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, 5 not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 *and* that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned *you*. 7 For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification. 8 So, he who rejects *this* is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you (1 Thessalonians 4:3-8, NASB).

THE GOOD SHEPHERD SEEKS TO KEEP THE FLOCK TOGETHER, AND GOES AFTER THE WANDERING SHEEP, BRINGING THEM BACK TO THE FOLD.

SALVATION IS ACCOMPANIED BY SPIRITUAL GIFTING, WHICH IS TO BE DISCOVERED, DEVELOPED, AND DEPLOYED, TO THE EDIFICATION OF THE BODY – EPHESIANS 4:1-16; ROMANS 12; 1 CORINTHIANS 12; 1 PETER 4:10-11.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE BESTOWED AT THE TIME OF ONE'S SALVATION, AS IS EVIDENT IN THE CASE OF TIMOTHY, A YOUNG MAN:

14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery. 15 Take pains with these things; be *absorbed* in them, so that your progress will be evident to all. 16 Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you (1 Timothy 4:14-16, NASB).

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION:

**ADVICE OLDER MEN WOULD SHARE WITH THOSE WHO ARE YOUNG
QUESTIONS YOUNGER MEN WOULD ASK THOSE WHO ARE OLDER**