

“Shepherd the Flock of God”:
*On the Installation of Aaron Geise,
Associate Pastor – Mound Evangelical Free Church
Sermon Notes*

□ **Aaron, as a fellow elder in the church of Jesus Christ, I charge you to shepherd the flock of God that is among you**

**Give careful attention to...*

1. ...the _____ of your shepherding (vv.1-2a)

2. ...the _____ of your shepherding (vv.2b-3)

3. ...the _____ for your shepherding (v.4)

→ *A charge to the members of Mound Evangelical Free Church (vv. 5-11)*

Next Week: Luke 14:1-24

MEFC Community Group Study Questions
For the Week of June 3rd – 9th

Getting Started

1. This season marks a new chapter in the life of our local church as we welcome a new associate pastor. In what ways are you optimistic about the days ahead? What particular evidences of God's grace do you see in the gift of Aaron and his family to our congregation?

Digging Deeper

2. The word "suffer" appears 17 times over the course of five short chapters in the letter of 1 Peter. (1 Peter 1:11; 1 Peter 2:19-21, 23; 3:14, 17-18; 4:1, 13, 15-16, 19; 5:1, 9-10). Read through these references as a group. What theological and practical observations does Peter provide about suffering? What difference does it make that the passage we're about to study regarding the work of elders is dropped right into the broader context of a letter that's thick with teaching about suffering?

Open Your Bible to 1 Peter 5:1-11...

3. When you are suffering, how tempting is it for you to turn inward and focus on only yourself? Notice that throughout his epistle, Peter seeks to refocus the gaze of suffering Christians (1 Peter 1:10-11; 5:1, 10). What is his gospel-centered strategy? Why is it so powerful?

4. Although all of the Bible is beneficial for all Christians, certain portions are especially relevant to leaders in particular (1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, Acts 20:17-38.). Why is it so critical that God's Word directly addresses leaders and the nature of local church eldership?

5. Why is "shepherding" such an apt description for church leadership (v.2a)? Timothy Witmer writes that shepherding involves "knowing", "feeding", "leading", and "protecting" the sheep. What are specific ways that pastors carry out these four objectives? Which of these do you imagine are most challenging? Which, do you suspect, are most rewarding?

6. In verses 2b-3, Peter gives three "not...but" statements that describe how the work of shepherding in the church is to be carried out. What are they? Why is each one so important?

7. For Peter, eschatology (what the Bible says about the end times) is incredibly practical. How does his vision of the future in verses 1 and 4 inform the way he exhorts pastors in the present?

8. Why is pride such an obstacle to church health (v.5)? How does Peter encourage both elders and church members to pursue humility (v. 5-11)? Which specific instructions do you find uniquely helpful in your life right now? Why?