



EXILES

Shepherds After God's Own Heart: The Call and Crown of Eldership

1 Peter 5:1-4

(page 1016/large print 1206 or 1296)

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February 23, 2025

1. Elders Suffer with Christ (5:1)

2. Elders Serve God's Flock (5:2-3)

a. Smelling Like Sheep (5:2)

b. Willing Service with Devotion (5:2)

c. Eager Service with Joy (5:2)

d. Exemplary Service with Humility (5:3)

3. Elders Will Share in Christ's Glory (5:4)

Questions for Discussion and Application

Quick Review

1. Was there anything in the passage that challenged or encouraged you?

2. How did this passage of Scripture help you see Christ better?

Digging Deeper

1. In 5:2, elders are called to "shepherd the flock of God." What does this metaphor imply about the role and responsibility of church leaders?

2. Speak to the word "among" in 5:1, 2. What does "amongness" look like? What would change in the local church if the word "among" was taken out of these verses?

3. How does the promise of the "unfading crown of glory" (5:4) motivate faithful leadership? How does this contrast with worldly rewards?

Taking It Home

1. While this passage specifically addresses elders, how can all believers apply these principles in their own areas of influence (e.g., work, family, ministry)?

2. How can you personally cultivate a heart of willing service rather than one motivated by obligation or selfish gain?

3. Is there an area where God is calling you to step up in leadership, even if you feel unqualified? How can you trust Him to equip you for the task?