

Memory Verse:

John 18:37 Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.

4 Primary Aspects of Shepherding:

Teaching/Feeding

Jeremiah 3:15 And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Protecting

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

Leading/Managing

1 Timothy 5:17 The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching.

Healing/Caring

James 5:14-15 Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.

We are to submit to our elders as spiritual fathers...so we benefit from their role in our lives

Hebrews 13:17 Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.

Titus 1:6-9 ⁶An elder must be blameless, faithful to his wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient. ⁷Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. ⁸Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. ⁹He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

Matthew 21:10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

Who is this?

John 14:6 I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

I am the Way

What does this do for me? How does this conviction affect my day today?

I am at peace with God. I have stability in life right now. I have assurance in life right now. I have an eternity of blessing in my future. I have a living hope today. I am not guessing, I am not worried, I am not stressed about the meaning of my life, I am not self absorbed, I am aware that the best is yet to come, in the midst of setbacks, discouragements, hardships...there is a hope that lights up the darkness...

I am the bread of life (John 6:48)	Sustainer
I am the light of the world (John 8:12)	Illuminator
I am the door (John 10:9)	Mediator
I am the good shepherd (John 10:11)	Caretaker
I am the resurrection and the life (John 11:25)	Life-Giver
I am the true vine (John 15:1)	Success-Maker

I am the Truth

What does this do for me? How does this conviction affect my day today?

I can walk with clarity in a world that is confused and in chaos. I can be steady and stable in a world of ever-changing foundations and shifting opinions. I can walk with confidence that the foundation I am building my life on is unchanging, sure and reliable.

John 18:37 In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.

I am the Life

John 1:1-5 In the was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in beginning the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

Life Group Discussion

1. Discuss the memory verse: John 18:37 Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.
2. What is the world's "truth" based on?
3. What is a Christian worldview on Truth?
4. Why are Jesus' claims to be the Way and the Truth and the Life so significant?
5. What are the implications of rejecting Jesus as the Way and the Truth and the Life?
6. C.S. Lewis said Jesus is either who he says he is or he is a lunatic, but there is no other option. Which one do you say he is?