

FOLLOWING LEADERS



1 Peter 5:1-5, ESV – *So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: ² shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; ³ not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory. ⁵ Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”*

Notes:

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SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of August 23, 2020

1 Peter 5:1-5

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

1 This weekend, we were reminded that if we are called to lead, we need to lead like Jesus. What does it look like to lead like Jesus?

2 Likewise, we were reminded that if we are called to follow, we need to follow like Jesus. What does it look like to follow like Jesus?

3 What motivation did Peter give them to inspire them to this type of service? How does this motivation affect us today?

DIGGING DEEPER

A **Philippians 2:3-8, ESV** – ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Titus 2:7-8, ESV – ⁷Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, ⁸and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

4 Looking at the passages above, what kind of example should believers be for others to follow?

5 What does Paul mean when he says, “in all respects”? How should we apply this concept in our own lives?

6 Ultimately, our example should point people to Christ. What aspects of Christ’s example do you do well? What aspects of Christ’s example can you improve upon? Explain.

B *Philippians 3:17, ESV* – ¹⁷ Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.

1 Corinthians 4:14-17, ESV – ¹⁴ I do not write these things to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. ¹⁵ For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. ¹⁶ I urge you, then, be imitators of me. ¹⁷ That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church.

7 In the passages above, we see Paul exhorting believers to be imitators of himself. What are some aspects of Paul’s example that we should imitate?

8 Paul refers to himself as a “spiritual father” to the Corinthians. Who in your life do you look to as your “spiritual father or mother”? Why?

9 Why is it important to “keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us”?

TAKING IT HOME

As followers of Christ, we are to follow His example in both our leadership and our following. This involves being an example worthy of following and being imitators of those who are following Christ. What aspects of being an example to others do you find difficult? What aspects of being a follower do you find difficult? What changes can you make this week to improve in these areas? Share with your group or accountability partner what God is laying on your heart and pray that you will behave in a way that is pleasing to Christ.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Matthew 20:26-27
1 Corinthians 11:1
Ephesians 5:1
Philippians 2:20-21, 4:9
2 Thessalonians 3:7-9
1 Timothy 1:16, 4:12
1 John 2:6