

Small Group Questions: The Care and Feeding of Pastors

Series: The Tide is Rising

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Read

Jeremiah 3:15, Ephesians 4:11-13, Ephesians 2:10, Mark 9:5-6, Philippians 1:6, Romans 12:10, 1 Thessalonians 5:11-13, 1 Timothy 5:17, Proverbs 11:24-25, Proverbs 17:17

Reflect

In Thessalonians, Paul lays out how to care for leaders who do the Lord's work, and how imperative it is for the church to lift up our leaders in prayer, encouragement, generosity, and friendship. It is the church's role to honor and love pastors, especially during periods of adversity. Your pastor is a gift from God, a work in progress, and worthy of honor.

If the tide is going to continue to rise, we need to take care of our pastors, which will then help us take care of one another.

Pastor Greg Surratt describes the need for caring for our pastors and explains how we can be a part of sustaining them when it gets hard.

How to Honor your Pastors

1. By Supporting Them

- a. What are some creative ways to show support to your pastor(s) this week?
- b. Who else in your life needs support? What are you going to do about it?
- c. Are you being generous with your gifts, resources, time?
 - i. If not, what will help you make a shift toward generosity?
- d. What does the Bible say about being generous?

2. By Be-Friending Them

- a. What does it look like to be a friend to someone?
 - i. Proverbs outlines for us what it looks like to be a friend. Where else in Scripture does it talk about being a friend?
- b. What are some ways we can be a friend to our pastor(s)?

3. By Encouraging Them

- a. How are you being critical of your pastor(s)? How are you being critical of others?
- b. What does encouragement look like for your pastor(s)?
- c. Feedback is important however criticism is not. How do we offer feedback without criticism?

Respond

Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?