



ORDINATION SUNDAY

What Is a Shepherd?

While “pastor” is a title we use, it is far more than a title. It is a calling, a character, and a work that a person hears from God and willingly answers.

The Call of a Shepherd

A shepherd serves because they must—whether paid or unpaid, recognized or unseen—because God has called them.

The Character of a Shepherd

Calling alone is not enough. A shepherd must have proven character.

“An overseer must be above reproach...” — 1 Timothy 3:2-7

This means a life marked by faithfulness, self-control, humility, hospitality, and integrity—at home, in the church, and among those outside the faith. Shepherds are not perfect, but they are trustworthy, teachable, and steady.

The Work of a Shepherd

Shepherds care for God’s flock.

They protect the flock from harm, feed them with God’s Word, guide them toward rest, and keep watch with vigilance and love. Shepherding is personal, costly, and often unseen—but deeply sacred.

The Family of a Shepherd

God does not call individuals in isolation—He calls families.

A shepherd must tend their family well, knowing that God, family, and ministry must remain in that order.

Faith in Action: Lead and Pray Like a Shepherd

Church, pray for your shepherds. The weight they carry is real.

And wherever you lead like a shepherd. Lead with care. Lead with courage.

Lead like it matters.

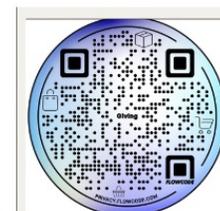
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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What word or idea stood out to you most when you think about a shepherd or pastor, and why?
- Why do you think God cares so much about the character of leaders, not just their abilities?
- Can you think of a time when someone cared for you, guided you, or protected you in a meaningful way? What made that impactful?
- What does it look like to “lead like a shepherd” in everyday life—at home, work, or school?
- How can we, as a church family, better support and pray for those who lead and care for others?



Announcements



Online Giving

FIRST TIME GUESTS

If this is your first time here, thank you for joining us today! Stop by the Welcome Booth for a Guest Bag (there’s a coffee gift card too).

NEW BELIEVER

Have you accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior? We are so excited for you and your new journey. Please fill out a connect card so we can follow up with you!

NEED PRAYER

We take prayer seriously around here. If you need prayer for anything, email Pray@jchurch.life, or fill out a connect card so we can be praying with and for you!