

God's Calling Requirements

Part 9

Pastor (Shepherd) Job's description

I went through the Bible and collected Scriptures that carry the word 'Pastor or Shepherd,' to find out and know their job description so I can apply in my life to attain God's calling requirements. Therefore, in brief I am sharing here with you the **Pastor (Shepherd) Job description** from the scriptures to encourage you to persevere to achieve God's calling requirements.

1- Pastors are brought by God to shepherd: *"from tending the sheep he brought him to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, of Israel his inheritance."* (Psalm 78:71) David was brought by God from tending sheep to be shepherd over God's people. Men should be cautious how to handle the calling of God to be pastors. God should be the one who called and who gave the spiritual gifts and the anointing to be a pastor as he did with David. Many now a day they start churches in order to live and to get a public honor or social privileges; such things will bring in corruption inside the church. If a person is not called by God to be a pastor, then he will mislead others and cause disturbances in their lives. God give pastors so sheep will not scatter. *"So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild animals."* (Ezekiel 34:5) God is the one who will place the pastor of the church, *"I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd.* (Ezekiel 34:23 NIV) *"My servant David will be king over them, and they will all have one shepherd. They will follow my laws and be careful to keep my decrees."* (Ezekiel 37:24 KJV) God has compassion on His people and for this reason he placed pastors or shepherds over them to care for the sheep, *"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd."* (Matthew 9:36) *"When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things."* (Mark 6:34) *"And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;"* (Ephesians 4:11) Lack of a pastor over the church will allow the flock to be plundered and attacked by devil, *"As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, because my flock lacks a shepherd and so has been plundered and has become food for all the wild animals, and because my shepherds did not search for my flock but cared for themselves rather than for my flock,"* (Ezekiel 34:8)

2- Pastors should seek God: *"For the pastors are become brutish, and have not sought the Lord; therefore they shall not prosper, and all their flocks shall be scattered."* (Jeremiah 10:21 KJV) *"The shepherds are senseless and do not inquire of the Lord; so they do not prosper and all their flock is scattered."* (Jeremiah 10:21 NIV) Pastors should seek God and do their best to draw near to Him to understand what they need to do for Him. In facing trials and difficult situation in the ministry, the pastors of the church congregations should seek God to find out solutions for the problem that they are facing and how to apply the solution in a proper way on the ground. Seeking God provide tactful solutions to solve even complicated problems.

3- Pastors should hear the word of God: *"Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD:"* (Ezekiel 34:7). Pastors should be quickened and directed only with God's word and commands. Pastors should hearken to the voice of God, who will tell them words they needed to hear to be their food and food for the rest of the sheep under their care.

4- Pastors should follow God and not run away from their assignment: *"As for me, I have not hastened from being a pastor to follow thee: neither have I desired the woeful day; thou knowest: that which came out of my lips was right before thee."* (Jeremiah 17:16 KJV) *"I have not run away from being your shepherd; you know I have not desired the day of despair. What passes my lips is open before you."* (Jeremiah 17:16 NIV) Pastors should continue to follow God and not run

away from their assignments. There are difficult times shepherd will pass through, during these times they should affirm their commitment to the covenant that they had made with God; No turning back. *"Woe to the worthless shepherd, who deserts the flock! May the sword strike his arm and his right eye! May his arm be completely withered, his right eye totally blinded!"* (Zechariah 11:17) Those who run away when troubles and persecution comes are not true shepherd, *"The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it."* (John 10:12)

5- Pastors should confess their sins and repent: *"When David saw the angel who was striking down the people, he said to the Lord, "I have sinned; I, the shepherd, have done wrong. These are but sheep. What have they done? Let your hand fall on me and my family."* (2 Samuel 24:17) The pastors who sin and do not repent will bring God's wrath on the sheep that are under their care. Pastor who are running after worldly and perishable things (fame, food, gifts, money, power, etc.) they are sinning against the Lord, *"The priests said not, Where is the Lord? and they that handle the law knew me not: the pastors also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after things that do not profit."* (Jeremiah 2:8 KJV) Those pastors who sin and are not willing to repent they are causing the following bad effects on the church, *"Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have trodden my portion under foot, they have made my pleasant portion a desolate wilderness."* (Jeremiah 12:10 KJV) *"Many shepherds will ruin my vineyard and trample down my field; they will turn my pleasant field into a desolate wasteland."* (Jeremiah 12:10 NIV) Further more God will do all the following to the sinful pastors: *"Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! saith the Lord."* (Jeremiah 23:1) *"The wind shall eat up all thy pastors, and thy lovers shall go into captivity: surely then shalt thou be ashamed and confounded for all thy wickedness."* (Jeremiah 22:22 KJV)

6- Pastors should have integrity and skill: *"And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them."* (Psalm 78:72) *"Then the Lord said to me, "Take again the equipment of a foolish shepherd."* (Zechariah 11:15 NIV) *"And the LORD said unto me, Take unto thee yet the instruments of a foolish shepherd."* (Zechariah 11:15 KJV) Shepherd by nature has equipments or instruments to care for the sheep. The equipments or the instruments of the pastors are their integrity before God and men. Every pastor should persevere in attaining holiness and life pleasant to the Lord. In addition to integrity, skills are also needed for the pastors. Every pastor should do his/her best to have skills and knowledge to do his job description in fruitful way.

7- Pastors should feed the sheep: *"And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding."* (Jeremiah 3:15 KJV) Pastors are responsible to spiritually feed the church members. Not material food but spiritual food of knowledge and wisdom from God's word that the pastors should give to the sheep. *Jeremiah 3:15 NIV* says, *"Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding."* The Pastors *will lead with knowledge and understanding*. So what understood here, that spiritual feeding of the word of God from the Scriptures will cause the church members to be led in the knowledge and the understanding of God. Pastors who do not feed the sheep with God's word they are useless because they are only caring for themselves: *"These people are blemishes at your love feasts, eating with you without the slightest qualm—shepherds who feed only themselves. They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted—twice dead."* (Jude 1:12) Churches and pastors who run activities, and give importance more to programs and practices more than God's word they are doing harms, *They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted—twice dead*. Such programs and activities cannot replace the feeding with God's word.

8- Pastor should give God's word to the sheep: *"The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails—given by one shepherd."* (Ecclesiastes 12:11) Goads

or drives are to establish certain important systems to drive the person to achieve certain thing. Nails are used to fix and put things together (to assemble a device). Pastors should know how to use God's word to help people and install and fix in their lives new important doctrine to help them to follow Christ and be on the way that they need to go. There is a certain particular teaching to each and every sheep on a time. Pastors should have discernment and discretion of what to choose and give as food to feed God's sheep with His word.

9- Pastors are to lead out the sheep and bring them in: *"To go out and come in before them, one who will lead them out and bring them in, so the Lord's people will not be like sheep without a shepherd."* (Numbers 27:17 NIV) The Pastor is the one who has the initiative to lead the people in certain direction and purpose to be achieved. He is the one who will start with them and to continue to achieve God's will and purpose, and ultimately he is the one to bring them to the spiritual destination that God wants His people to be. Joshua was the one who succeeded Moses to lead God's people to enter and possess the Promise Land. David did the same after the removal of Saul and his house from the office of the king, *"In the past, while Saul was king over us, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.'" (2Samuel 5:2 NIV) The pastors need to hear and follow the word of God to lead the sheep in the right direction in order not to make them astray; *"My people have been lost sheep; their shepherds have led them astray and caused them to roam on the mountains. They wandered over mountain and hill and forgot their own resting place. (Jeremiah 50:6)**

10- Pastors are rulers or masters for the sheep: *"In the past, even while Saul was king, you were the one who led Israel on their military campaigns. And the Lord your God said to you, 'You will shepherd my people Israel, and you will become their ruler.'" (1Chronicles 11:2) *"Then Micahiah answered, 'I saw all Israel scattered on the hills like sheep without a shepherd, and the Lord said, 'These people have no master. Let each one go home in peace.'" (1Kings 22:17) To be ruler or master implies that the pastor of the church has an important rule over the church members. His absence means confusion and disorder in their lives. He is the one to help them to draw near to the true God. As a pastor you need to play a rule and bring difference in the lives of the sheep under your care.**

11- Pastors should accomplish and perform the things of God: *"Who says of Cyrus, 'He is my shepherd and will accomplish all that I please; he will say of Jerusalem, 'Let it be rebuilt,' and of the temple, 'Let its foundations be laid.'" (Isaiah 44:28 NIV) *"That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid."* (Isaiah 44:28 KJV) Pastors are kind of determined people who lay foundations, built or rebuilt, and accomplish the plans of God in a perfect way in the life of His church and His people.*

12- Pastors should look after the sheep: Every sheep is placed in a place for a purpose and plan. The pastor should discern and perceive the different plan and purpose for each and every church member, to look after in an appropriate way. *"As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness."* (Ezekiel 34:12)

13- Pastors should rescue the sheep that are in danger: Every sheep is placed in a place for a purpose and plan. The pastor should discern and perceive the physical and the spiritual dangers that are placed in front of his sheep and move carefully to rescue them and pull them out from troubles. *"As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness."* (Ezekiel 34:12) To rescue is a process to take out from danger the personnel who are trapped by

hazards like fire, accidents, earthquake, etc. In *Amos 3:12*, the Lord describe the shepherd as a person who will rescue the sheep from the mouth of the Lion, *"This is what the Lord says: 'As a shepherd rescues from the lion's mouth only two leg bones or a piece of an ear, so will the Israelites living in Samaria be rescued, with only the head of a bed and a piece of fabric from a couch.'" (Amos 3:12) The Lion is the devil and we need to understand that the pastors should not give up in the process of rescuing the sheep. Even if there had been much damage and lost the shepherd should continue to rescue whatever remaining.*

14- Pastors should search and bring back the lost sheep: *"I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice."* (Ezekiel 34:16) Lack of searching for the lost sheep is one of the cause that will cause the flock to be attacked and plundered, *"As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign Lord, because my flock lacks a shepherd and so has been plundered and has become food for all the wild animals, and because my shepherds did not search for my flock but cared for themselves rather than for my flock," (Ezekiel 34:8) Pastors who look only after themselves they fail to search and bring back the lost sheep.*

15- Pastors should bind up the injured: *"I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice."* (Ezekiel 34:16) *"For I am going to raise up a shepherd over the land who will not care for the lost, or seek the young, or heal the injured, or feed the healthy, but will eat the meat of the choice sheep, tearing off their hooves."* (Zechariah 11:16) There are occasions, for example persecution, rejection, accidents, illnesses, natural disasters, financial losses, loss of a near person; all these can contribute injuries to the sheep of the church. In such situation the pastor of the church should be available to help the injured sheep and care for them till they are recovered.

16- Pastors bring the salvation of God to the sheep: *"The Lord their God will save his people on that day as a shepherd saves his flock. They will sparkle in his land like jewels in a crown."* (Zechariah 9:16) Pastors help people to come out from sin and to repent and got saved.

17- Pastors should care for the lost: *"For I am going to raise up a shepherd over the land who will not care for the lost, or seek the young, or heal the injured, or feed the healthy, but will eat the meat of the choice sheep, tearing off their hooves."* (Zechariah 11:16) Compassion and dedication needed from the pastor toward the lost souls to be disciplined and nurtured in the ways of God.

18- Pastors should strengthen the weak sheep: *"I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice."* (Ezekiel 34:16) Pastors should see who are weak among the members and give them better attention till they are strong and can stand the strain of life.

19- Pastors should shepherd the flock with justice: *"I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice."* (Ezekiel 34:16) Pastors should show no favoritism to the rich, famous and prestigious members over the right of the poor, common or less honorable people.

20- Pastors should discipline those who cause disturbances: *"I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice."* (Ezekiel 34:16) Pastors should see who are arrogant and cause troubles among the members and deal with them appropriately according to *Matthew 18:15-17*.

21- Pastors should seek the young: “For I am going to raise up a shepherd over the land who will not care for the lost, or seek the young, or heal the injured, or feed the healthy, but will eat the meat of the choice sheep, tearing off their hooves.” (Zechariah 11:16) Pastors responsible to look for the young church members to disciple them and give them God’s law and commands.

21- Pastors should feed their sheep: “For I am going to raise up a shepherd over the land who will not care for the lost, or seek the young, or heal the injured, or feed the healthy, but will eat the meat of the choice sheep, tearing off their hooves.” (Zechariah 11:16) Pastors are still responsible for the life of the spiritually healthy church members to feed them continually to maintain their spiritual wellbeing.

22- Pastors should tend their sheep: “I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing,” declares the Lord.” (Jeremiah 23:4) “I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. (Ezekiel 34:23 NIV) Pastors should tend their sheep and lead them in the plan of God and in the ways of the Lord. That will help the sheep to live away from fear and make them less exposed to be misled and ultimately lost by devil. The church pastors should tend the sheep in the right way and offer to the sheep the advices and instructions so they will not be misled. Tending is to walk with them step by step. Not running, but walking. Pastors who run fast ahead of the sheep are hard to follow. When we walk with our young children we walk slowly so they can follow us and will not be lost.

23- Pastors should visit and bestow care on their sheep: “Therefore thus saith the Lord God of Israel against the pastors that feed my people; Ye have scattered my flock, and driven them away, and have not visited them: behold, I will visit upon you the evil of your doings, saith the Lord.” (Jeremiah 23:2 KJV) “Therefore this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: “Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done,” declares the Lord.” (Jeremiah 23:2 NIV) Pastors should visit their members especially those who has special needs and are passing through difficult times and hardships. Visitation will bring care to the church members. Lack of visitation and care for those who are in need of special care will cause the sheep to be driven away and scattered. “Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy and say to them: ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Woe to you shepherds of Israel who only take care of yourselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock?’” (Ezekiel 34:2)

24- Pastors should watch over their flocks: “Hear the word of the Lord, you nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: ‘He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.” (Jeremiah 31:10) Pastors should watch and view what is going on in the life of the sheep that are under their care so they can teach, inform, warn and correct them. Watching over is for the protection from wolves and false teachers who come to steal the sheep, “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.” (Acts 20:28)

25- Pastors should give rest to their sheep: “This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In this place, desolate and without people or animals—in all its towns there will again be pastures for shepherds to rest their flocks.” (Jeremiah 33:12) Discernment is needed from the pastor side. Certain time the workers are tired and spiritually exhausted so pastors should avoid pushing their workers for further challenges and struggles.

26- Pastors needs to know priorities correctly: “Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, “Why have you

not built me a house of cedar?”” (2 Samuel 7:7) “Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their leaders whom I commanded to shepherd my people, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”” (1 Chronicles 17:6) Many pastors aims to have church building; they endeavor to get land and to have their building. Church building it can be a need and possibly can make God’s service and ministry easier. But let us see which time David desired to build a house to God? David desired to build a house for God after he had done all his assignments that God had asked him to do and he had prepared everything to build. If the pastors followed and applied all the previous proceeding items as was described in the message, then it is Godly and honorable to God, and after God’s approval, to build a building for the church. But pursuing to build a building for the church without observing to achieve all what was described in the message about Pastor job’s description, that will become a redundant and wrong priority.

My Dear and Beloved: God is calling you today to understand and to put into practice what you had committed yourself to do for Him. You are called to seek God, hear his word, follow His steps, to live in holiness, to pour out your life to serve others, finding them, rescuing them, pasturing them and help them to know Christ and follow his steps in their lives. Let us work together with Jesus who said, “**I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.**” (John 10:11) as we agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God we come before you in the name of Jesus. Thank you for your word that explains things clearly to us and describe to us our responsibilities and the description of our service to you. Lord Lead each and every one of us in a programmed steps with discernment and understanding to accomplish the task entrusted to us as a church till you come and take us to heaven. Gives us wisdom, patient and perseverance to bring the fruit that you desire to see in our lives. This is our prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

For more spiritual enrichment please visit our website at:
www.churchofgoduae.com

Jesus christ



The Bread Of Life

Vol. 16

Issue 48

Share the message with a friend.