

# PASTOR

## I. Biblical usage

- A. Singular reference  
Eph. 4:11 - "He gave some as pastors and teachers"
- B. Greek word *poimen* means "shepherd"
  - 1. Other usages  
Jn. 10:2,11,12,14,16 - "I am the good Shepherd"  
Heb. 13:20 - "the Great Shepherd of the sheep,...Jesus our Lord"  
I Pet. 2:25 - "the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls"
- C. First translated as "pastor" in Geneva Bible (1599), based on John Calvin's sharp distinction between "pastor" *poimen* and "teacher" *didaskalos*.

## II. What does it mean "to pastor" or to be a "pastor"?

- A. Is it...
  - 1. a spiritual gift?
  - 2. a leadership role?
  - 3. an ecclesiastical office?
  - 4. a vocational calling?
  - 5. a professional position?
  - 6. a personal relationship?
- B. Is there a difference between "pastor" and...
  - 1. priest?
  - 2. parson?
  - 3. minister?
  - 4. preacher?
  - 5. teacher?
  - 6. clergy?
  - 7. "reverend"?
- C. What is the relationship of a "pastor" to...
  - 1. elders - *presbuteroi* ? (Acts 20:17)
  - 2. overseers - *episkopoi* ? (Acts 20:28)

## III. Changing ecclesiastical and cultural expectations of a "pastor"

- A. Pastoral activity. What is a pastor to do?
  - 1. administrator, facilitator, C.E.O.
  - 2. teacher, educator
  - 3. preacher, pulpiteer
  - 4. Biblical scholar, theologian
  - 5. counsellor, negotiator
  - 6. promoter, planner, programmer
  - 7. politician, diplomat
  - 8. communicator, orator, inspirational speaker
  - 9. entertainer, motivational speaker
  - 10. worship leader, liturgist
  - 11. evangelist
  - 12. moralist
  - 13. activist
  - 14. community leader
  - 15. social worker (transients, homeless, rescue mission)
  - 16. weddings, funerals, hospital visitation

- B. Pastoral authority?
  - 1. Does ordination confer authority?
  - 2. Should pastor be authority of local church?
  - 3. Does the pastor have any authority? cf. Matt. 23:8; 28:18; II Cor. 1:24; 11:20; I Pet. 5:13; cf. I Thess.5:12,13; Heb. 13:17
  - 4.. Is the pastor an employee of the local church?
- C. Pastoral success?
  - 1. Competition - denominationally, locally
  - 2. Statistically, numerical success factors - 3 big Bs (buildings, budgets, baptisms)
- D. Pastoral self-concepts
  - 1. Who am I accountable to?
    - a. denomination?
    - b. elders?
    - c. God?
  - 2. Passive dependency - controlled by others
    - a. expectations
    - b. placement
    - c. compensation
    - d. evaluation

#### IV. Pastoral responsibilities

- A. Lead, feed, but not breed.
- B. Equip the saints - Eph. 4:12
  - 1. Ministry of all believers
  - 2. Work himself out of a job
- C. Maturation of saints - Eph. 4:13-16; Col. 1:25-28
- D. Care for saints - Acts 20:28-32

#### V. Pastoral priorities

- A. Godly man - Matt. 6:33; Acts 6:4
- B. Family - I Tim. 3:4
- C. Ministry
  - 1. In accord with God's giftedness and direction
  - 2. Receptive to the function of the Shepherd (Jesus Christ) in him.