

# “Be Shepherded”

*1 Peter 5:1-5*

## What Does Suffering and Church Leadership Have in Common?

- Suffering **begins** with elders. . .
  - **Enemies** of the church’s ministry will target the leaders.
  - **Evaluation** of the church’s ministry will be stricter for leaders.
- Suffering puts extreme **pressure** on. . .
  - A local **church**.
  - An individual **Christian**.

## Sermon Summary. . .

God helps the church navigate suffering through the **oversight** of elders.

## Two Undertakings to Successfully Navigate Suffering . . .

- **Find** biblically qualified elders.
  - They serve **willingly**, not under compulsion.
  - They serve **eagerly**, not for shameful gain.
  - They serve as **examples**, not domineering.
- **Follow** biblically qualified elders.
  - Understand the nature of their ministry. . .
    - Shepherds **know** the sheep.
    - Shepherds **feed** the sheep.
    - Shepherds **lead** the sheep.
    - Shepherds **protect** the sheep.
  - Understand the nature of their authority. . .
    - It is **limited** by God.
    - It is **given** by God.

## The Good Shepherd, Local Shepherds, and Your Suffering. . .

- **True** sheep follow the Good Shepherd.
- **Mature** sheep follow their local shepherds.