

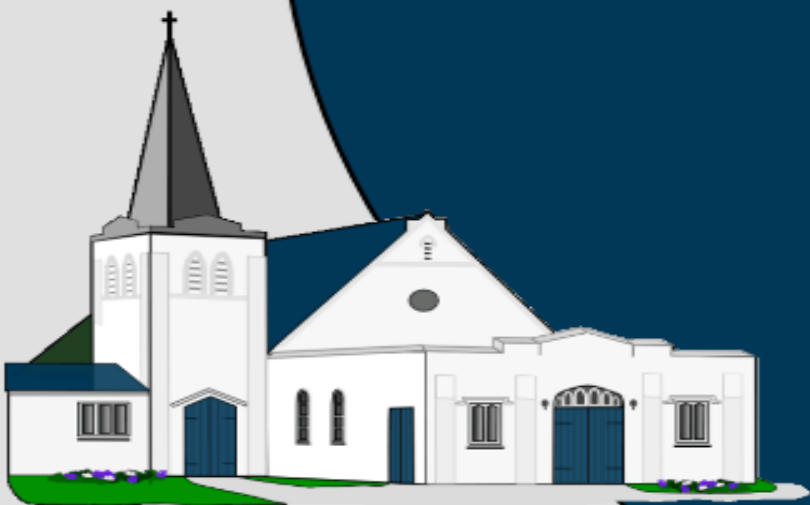
Church and Ministry

Week 2: The Office



Warm up question

How many pastors have you had in
your life?



What's in a name?

There are several names for the people who serve the church in an ordained capacity: Pastor, Priest, Father, Minister, Apostle, Preacher, Ordained, Overseer, Bishop, Elder

Additionally, there are different names for the office: Office of the Public Ministry, Office of the Keys, Religious Life, Priesthood

What do some of these names tell us about this vocation?



Old Testament/New Testament

Pastors are a New Testament concept, but having men serve the people of God in a role of leadership can be found throughout the Old Testament.

The Old Testament offices of prophet and priest are the most similar to the New Testament office of pastor.

Just from your memory of what OT priests and prophets are, how are these different or similar to what a pastor is?



The Office of the Keys

One of the “key” tasks given to pastors is to proclaim the forgiveness of sins (or proclaim its unavailability to the unrepentant).

Read John 20:19-23

What does this passage tell us about pastors?



As the Church Grows

Paul oversaw much of the growth of the early church, including the growth of a group of men who would be called pastors. Recognizing a need for leadership, he clarified this New Testament office in what the Holy Spirit gave him to write in his letters.

Read Titus 1:5-9

What does this passage tell us about pastors?



Qualifications

Paul's letters give us a picture of ministry, often as a frame that shows us what the qualifications of a pastor are more than showing us the day to day operations of a pastor.

Read 1 Timothy 3:1-7

What does this passage tell us about pastors?



Shepherd of the Flock

Peter was a great leader of the early church. As he writes to pastors, we get another sense of what a pastor is (and the use of the word for “pastor”: shepherd).

Read 1 Peter 5:1-5

What does this passage tell us about pastors?

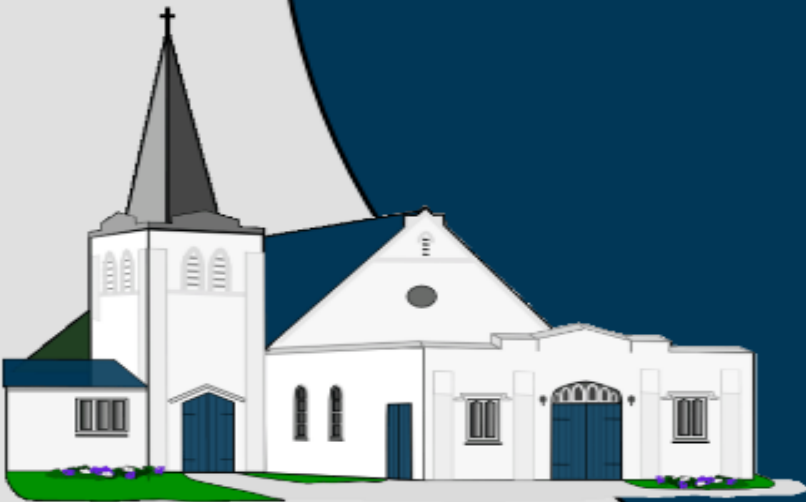


Preach

Throughout the New Testament, we see that pastors are to proclaim the Word of God to people.

Read 2 Timothy 4:1-5

What does this passage tell us about pastors?



Next Time

Next week we will look into the relationship between the Church and pastors, especially relating to the mission and purpose of the Church

