



#1: 1 Peter 5:1-3

So I exhort the elders among you, as a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, as well as a partaker in the glory that is going to be revealed: shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.

#2:

“It is to feed sheep on such truth (the Sermon on the Mount) that men are called to churches and congregations, whatever they may think they are called to do. If you think that you are called to keep a largely worldly organization, miscalled a church, going, with infinitesimal doses of innocuous sub-Christian drugs or stimulants, then the only help I can give you is to advise you to give up the hope of the ministry and go and be a street scavenger; a far healthier and more godly job, keeping the streets tidy, than cluttering the church with a lot of worldly claptrap in the delusion that you are doing a job for God.”

William Still
The Work of the Pastor

#3: Titus 1:5,7

This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town... For an overseer, as God’s steward...must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

#4:

“Much of the training of pastors, especially within my own tradition, is heavily academic and oriented toward the pulpit and teaching ministry. At times, this causes students heading into ministry to think that most, if not all, of their time will be spent preparing lessons or sermons, reading, and meeting others for counseling, discipleship, or evangelism...(but most pastors are involved in) nuances of management that require a lot of time and effort...Pastors are often ill-equipped for and unskilled in these things, yet they have to be done for the church to function.”

Clay Werner
On the Brink: Grace for the Burned Out Pastor

#5:

“The desire to be an overseer by itself does not qualify one for the office. Such a desire is a good initial signal to check for the qualifications that follow. An overseer should desire to serve in this way, but the desire may be found also among those who do not meet the qualifications that will be enumerated momentarily.”

John Kitchen
The Pastoral Epistles for Pastors



#6:

“It is very easy for ministry leaders to consider their church or ministry their world. That becomes the place where they find security and satisfaction, acceptance and approval. Such places can become the foundation for building our own kingdoms and making a name for ourselves...Because of hidden idolatries and motivations in our heart, we tend to design our kingdom around our heart’s desires. So sin defines the ‘perfect world’ on its own terms. A perfect world is where I have my desires fulfilled – now...Our hearts tend to be drawn to things and people and experiences that seem to be powerful, seem to be meaningful, and seem to be satisfying, but in the end they leave us empty, disappointed, and deflated.”

Clay Werner

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#7:

“We are selfish, ungrateful creatures; and if the Lord crosses or tries us in one thing, we are prone to forget our many calls for thankfulness...We are liable to toss, like a wild bull in a net, or to sink into despondency.”

John Newton

Wise Counsel: John Newton’s Letters to John Ryland, Jr.

#8: Acts 20:24

But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.