

LESSON 3 | FEEDING THE FLOCK

Acts 20:28 (NLT): “So guard yourselves and God’s people. Feed and shepherd God’s flock — his church, purchased with his own blood — over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders.”

THE PASTOR FEEDS THE FLOCK BY:

1. FEEDING THEM THE _____.

Hebrews 4:12 (NLT): “For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.”

2. FEEDING ACCORDING TO THEIR _____.

Hebrews 5:12 (NLT): “You have been believers so long now that you ought to be teaching others. Instead, you need someone to teach you again the basic things about God’s word. You are like babies who need milk and cannot eat solid food.”

3. FEEDING THEM _____.

2 Timothy 4:2 (NLT): “Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching.”

4. FEEDING THEM IN A WAY THEY CAN _____.

Mark 4:33 (NLT): “Jesus also used many similar stories and illustrations to teach the people as much as they could understand.”

5. FEEDING FROM OVERFLOW, NOT EMPTINESS.

John 6:35 (NLT): “Jesus replied, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’”

PRACTICAL APPLICATION FOR PASTORS

Keep a balanced teaching schedule: gospel, doctrine, discipleship, and practical Christian living.

Prepare content for both new believers and mature disciples.

Bring Scripture to life with real stories and examples.

Maintain your own devotional life so you teach from overflow.

Ask, “*Are my people growing?*” If not, adjust the menu.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it dangerous to feed the church your own ideas instead of God’s Word?
2. How can you tell when your people need “milk” vs. “meat” in their teaching?
3. What does “feeding consistently” look like in your ministry rhythm?
4. How can you make your teaching more understandable and relatable?

The Shepherd Leader | Section 1: Leading Members

5. What steps can you take to make sure you're feeding yourself spiritually before feeding others?

ASSIGNMENT

Review the last **four messages or teachings** you've given.

Evaluate: Were they balanced? Were they understandable? Did they meet people at different stages of spiritual growth?

Make **one change this week** to improve the spiritual "nutrition" of your flock.