



Pastor Appreciation 2013

Heart Issues for Leaders and Followers

John 21:15-22; 2 Corinthians 11:22-29; 1 Peter 5:1-7

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I. MINISTRY MUST FLOW OUT OF LOVE FOR CHRIST, AND THE ASSURANCE OF HAVING BEEN FORGIVEN OF PAST FAILURES (JOHN 21:15-22)

- A. Jesus should have no competition for first place in our hearts. He comes before family, friends, and ministry assignments
- B. Our love for Christ must be demonstrated by how we shepherd the hearts of others. Good pastors are hard to find!
- C. Do not let the assignments of others distract you from following Christ yourself.

II. LEADERSHIP IS COSTLY. MAKE SURE YOU ARE WILLING TO KEEP PAYING THE PRICE (2 Corinthians 11:22-29)

- A. Paul suffered in ways we cannot identify with as he did evangelism, church planting, and pastoring. He did it without an annual appreciation month!
- B. Few people are able to understand the pressures a pastor endures if he really cares about the people of God.
(2 Corinthians 11:29; John 10:7-13)

III. SHEPHERD THE FLOCK OF GOD BY ANTICIPATING THE APPEARANCE OF THE CHIEF SHEPHERD. (1st Peter 5:1-7)

- A. How you use your head, hands, and heart in ministry should provide the example that influences others to follow Christ.
- B. Stay humble as you follow Christ while leading others, and cast your cares upon the One who has planned your care.
(1st Peter 5:7)

**KEEP LOVING JESUS WITH YOUR WHOLE HEART.
THOSE YOU SERVE WILL APPRECIATE YOU!**