

“The Watchman and the Shepherds” (Part 2)
Ezekiel 34:1-10

“Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for My people: ‘You have scattered My flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the LORD.’” (Jeremiah 23:2)

Leaders can rule by reason, persuasiveness, patience, grace, and love or they can rule by emotion, threatening, impatience, power, and manipulation.

- Why Does God Give Authority?
 - *“When one rules justly over men, ruling in the fear of God, he dawns on them like the morning light, like the sun shining forth on a cloudless morning, like rain that makes grass to sprout from the earth.” (2 Samuel 23:3b-4)*
 - *“Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.” (Romans 13:1)*
 - *“For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad....for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer.” (Romans 13:3-4)*
 - *“You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:42b-44)*
 - *“Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that He might present the church to Himself in splendor...” (Ephesians 5:25-27)*
 - *“Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4)*
 - *“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.” (Hebrews 13:17)*
- The Leaders of Israel:
 - (34:2b-3) *“Ah, shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep?”*
 - (34:4) Power is given to serve the weak, not use the weak.
 - (34:5-6) Power is given to protect, not neglect.
 - (34:7-8) Power is given to rescue, not forsake.
 - (34:9-10) Those with power will be held responsible.

Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** For our May and June donation collection, we are joining Heartbeats in this life-affirming mission! Your contribution, big or small, makes a profound impact! Together, let's empower women and families to choose life! Starting on Mother's Day — Sunday, May 11th through Father's Day — Sunday, June 15th, we are collecting monetary donations for Heartbeats and their "Reaching Her Campaign." You can put your monetary donations in the container on the back table. You can also give on Venmo, please make sure to note that it is for "Heartbeats." For more information about Heartbeats and what they do, please see the bulletin board at the back of the Sanctuary.

★**CHURCH GAME NIGHT:** Our monthly Church Game Night is THIS Sunday, May 25th, at Andy's house (1062 National Road SE; Hebron), starting at 5pm. Please bring your favorite board games and card games to play. We also ask that you bring a snack or finger food to share with everyone! We would love for everyone to join us for this time of fun and fellowship!

★**MEN'S BREAKFAST:** Men, the monthly Men's Breakfast is on Saturday, May 31st, at 7am, at the Big Apple Café — Log Pond Location. If you plan on attending, please RSVP to Pastor Zach (740)618-0739.

★**MEMBERS' MEETING:** We are having a Members' Meeting on Sunday, June 8th, immediately following the worship service. At this meeting, we will be presenting a couple of By-Law Additions, as well as presenting standing Deacon terms for renewal and presenting new Deacons and an Elder for congregational approval. This meeting is to present information only, voting on these items will happen at the July Members' Meeting. If you are currently a Church Member, please plan on staying for this important meeting.

★**CANOE/KAYAK TRIP:** Andy is planning a Canoe and Kayak Trip for Saturday, June 14th, at 11am, from Statens Bridge to Toboso. Please pack a lunch for this trip. If you are interested in participating or if you have any questions, please see Andy Wesley (740)334-6159.

★**MEN OF LEGACY LUNCH:** Men, we are planning the First Annual Men of Legacy Lunch for Saturday, June 21st, at 11am. Mark your calendars and save the date!