

Renewing the Church

"Discipling Other Couples"

Proverbs 27:23-27

Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy herds. For riches are not for ever: and doth the crown endure to every generation?

The hay appeareth, and the tender grass sheweth itself, and herbs of the mountains are gathered. The lambs are for thy clothing, and the goats are the price of the field. And thou shalt have goats' milk enough for thy food, for the food of thy household. (KJV)

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Know your shepherding responsibilities well and attend to those responsibilities conscientiously. Don't just assume that things will go well; the good times pass swiftly.

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If you handle your responsibilities with care, then at harvest time you will reap blessings for yourself, and your families.

Some Conclusions

- We are called to be caring, attending shepherds
- Shepherds will eventually receive personal and familial blessings

Hebrews 10:24-25

Let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: ... exhorting one another.

"Encourage Each Other"

I Thessalonians 2:8

Being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us.

"Sacrifice Self for Others"

Proverbs 9:9

Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning.

"Teach Others"

Philippians 4:9

Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

"Be a Godly Influence"

Hebrews 13:7

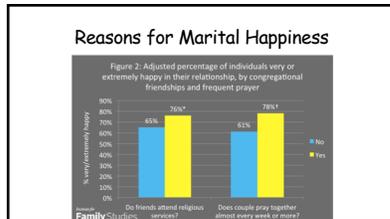
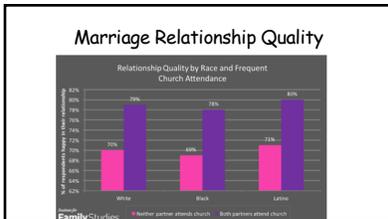
Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. (KJV)

Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. (ESV)

"Be A Godly Role Model"

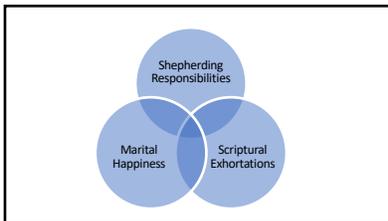
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- The Bible exhorts us to give of ourselves for the edification of others
 - The Bible encourages us to teach others
- The Bible encourages us to be examples for others



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- Regularly church attendance is a significant factor in marital happiness
- Being with friends at church strongly influences marital happiness
- Couples praying together strongly influences marital happiness



Bluffton Model

- Twenty-something Need
- Three Year Plan
- We Learned...
 - Don't Settle For a Good Marriage
 - Premarital, Postmarital Counseling Differences
 - Value of Study/Preparation
 - Value of Walking the Path with Other Couples
 - Value of Staying Current with Issues, Trends, Technology, etc.