



Faithful

God's *faithfulness* keeps us faithful.

"He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it."

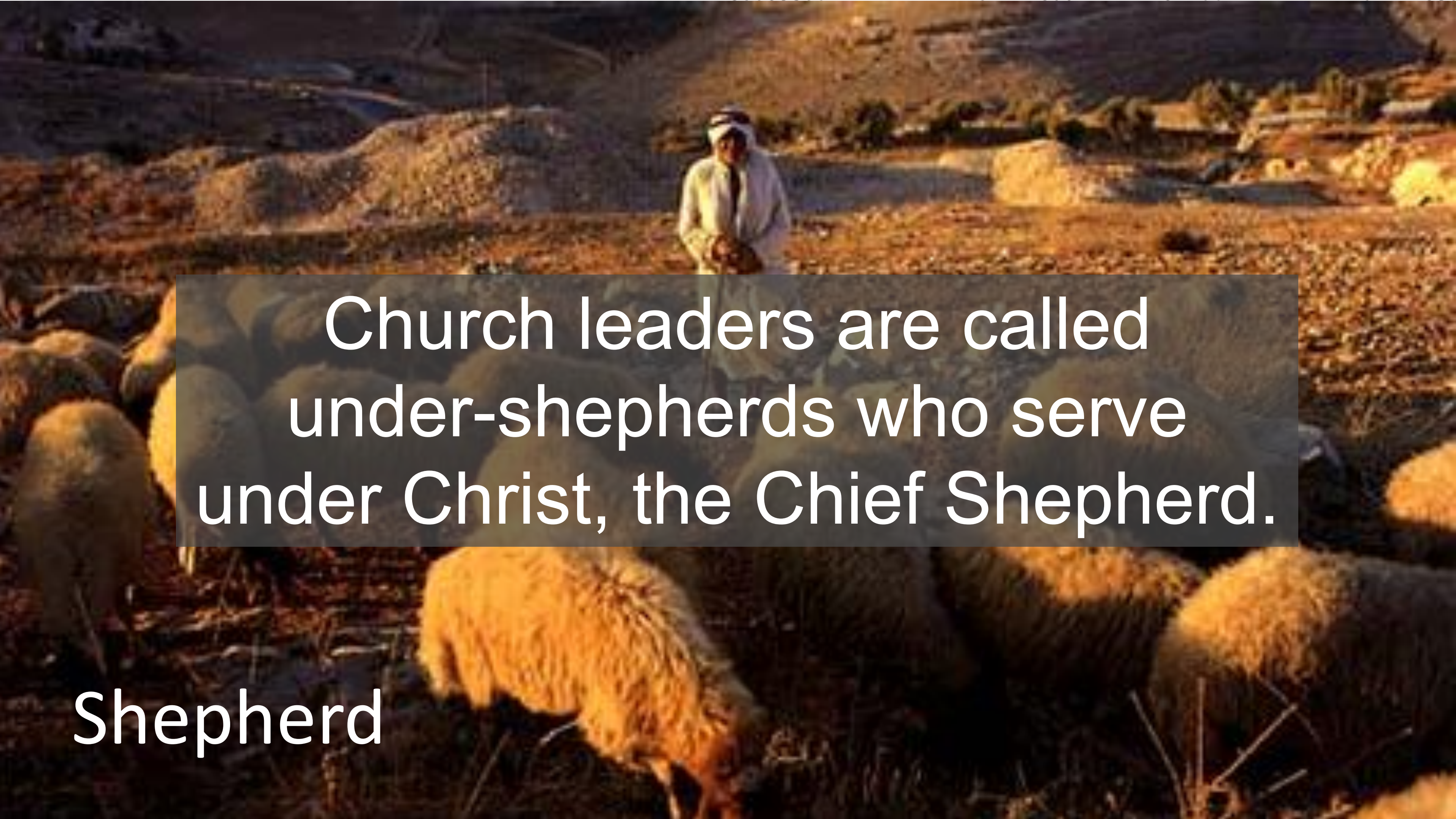
1 Thessalonians 5:24 ESV

In the Bible

Faithful, humble, servant-hearted, courageous, wise, blameless, gentle, patient, self controlled, righteous, compassionate, diligent, just, loving, obedient, steadfast, honest, prayerful, and watchful shepherding.

Metaphors to describe a leader in the bible.

- ❑ *Shepherd - Jeremiah 3:15, John 10:11*
- ❑ *Watchman — Ezekiel 3:17*
- ❑ *Steward — 1 Corinthians 4:2*
- ❑ *Servant — Matthew 20:26*
- ❑ *Father — 1 Thessalonians 2:11–12*
- ❑ *Builder — 1 Corinthians 3:10*
- ❑ *Soldier — 2 Timothy 2:3*
- ❑ *Farmer — 2 Timothy 2:6*

A shepherd in a white robe and head covering stands in a field with sheep. The scene is set in a dry, hilly landscape under a bright sky. The shepherd is positioned in the center, looking towards the camera. The sheep are scattered around him, some in the foreground and some in the background. The overall tone is warm and golden, suggesting late afternoon or early morning light.

Church leaders are called
under-shepherds who serve
under Christ, the Chief Shepherd.

Shepherd

BUT What happens when Shepherds don't function?

Ezekiel 34:4-9 ESV

[4] The weak you have not strengthened, the sick you have not healed, the injured you have not bound up, the strayed you have not brought back, the lost you have not sought, and with force and harshness you have ruled them.

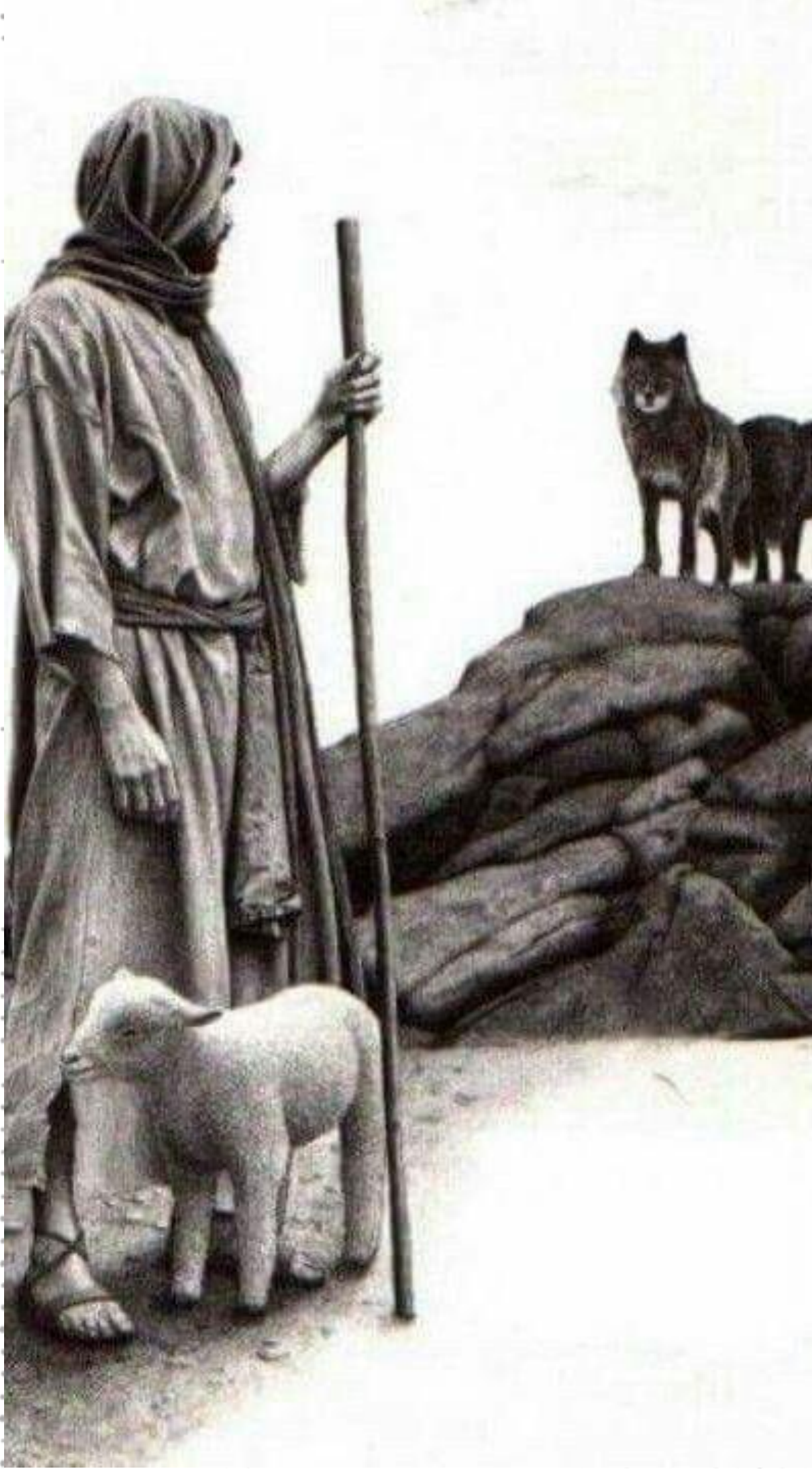
[5] So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd, and they became food for all the wild beasts. My sheep were scattered; [6] they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. My sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with none to search or seek for them.



A Faithful Shepherd is a

1. WATCHMAN

They are to have wide-open eyes, constantly searching for the horizon for the possible approach of foes.



A Faithful Shepherd is a

2. **GUARD**

Psalm 23:4 ESV

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.



A Faithful Shepherd is a

3. **GUIDE**

Psalm 23:1-2 ESV

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
[2] He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.



A Faithful Shepherd is a

4. **PHYSICIAN**

Psalm 23:1-2 ESV

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
[2] He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.



A Faithful Shepherd is a

5. **DELIVERER**

1 Samuel 17:34-35 ESV

But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep sheep for his father. And when there came a lion, or a bear, and took a lamb from the flock, [35] I went after him and struck him and delivered it out of his mouth. And if he arose against me, I caught him by his beard and struck him and killed him.



A Faithful Shepherd is a

6. **PROVIDER**

Feeding of the sheep is an essential duty of the shepherd.

Therefore, the faithful shepherd will always bring fresh food and water.



A Faithful Shepherd is a

7. **PLANNER**

This means spiritual shepherds must prayerfully plan how to teach, protect, and nurture the people God has entrusted to them.

Planning is part of faithful stewardship.



A Faithful Shepherd is

7. ONE WHO **LOVES**

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”
— John 10:11 (ESV)



REFLECTION QUESTION

Instructions:

Form groups of four and spend 5 minutes discussing the following questions:

“Which of these roles do you find most challenging to live out, or perhaps have overlooked in serving the flock God has entrusted to you?”

Psalm 78:70-72 ESV

He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; [71] from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance. [72] With an upright heart, he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.

a) God is the One who chooses you.

b) The flock belongs to God, not to us.

c) It is God who assigns the work.

d) God Himself provides the expectation.

Prayer Time