8/30/15

***Recap of 8/23/15 (1 Peter 5:2-3):***

*1. In a series of three contrasting statements, Peter lays out the nature of New Testament leadership: 1) not because you must but because you are willing; 2) not greedy for money but eager to serve; and 3) not lording it over those entrusted to you but being examples to the flock.*

*2. Leaders must serve voluntarily, willingly, not under compulsion. Leaders at times serve for the wrong reason as seen in a statement such as, “If I don’t do it who will?” Sometimes believers are unwilling to serve: out of a false sense of unworthiness; out of reluctance for responsibility; out of a complacency which is content with doing just enough to get by in the spiritual life; or by a sense of being comfortable.*

*3. Peter’s second caution is that Elders should not serve out of greed, a wrong view of money. This is an important point for three reasons: 1) some Elders/Pastors/Overseers were paid. While that was not wrong according to scripture such as 1 Tim. 5:17,18 and 1 Cor. 9:3-14, it must not be the sole reason for service; 2) Elders handled money as part of their oversight and must therefore be trustworthy; and 3) Spiritual position can be misused to manipulate people especially about money.*

*4. Peter calls leaders to be eager to serve, out of a zeal for God and His work.*

*5. In his book Celebration of Discipline, Richard Foster lists nine forms of service in chapter nine. The service of:*

*-hiddenness, “service that remains generally unknown”*

*-small things*

*-guarding the reputations of others*

*-being served, accepting service from others without feeling we must pay it back*

*-common courtesy, such as saying “please,” and “thank you.”*

*-hospitality*

*-listening, which requires compassion and patience*

*-bearing each other’s burdens, Gal. 6:2; James 2:8*

*-sharing the Word of Life with one-another.*

**“Authority and Humility”**

**1 Peter 5:2-7**

**I. Instructions to Leaders vv. 2-4**

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**II. Instructions to the Flock vv. 5-7**

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