

Let God Handle It

Ezekiel 34:1-6

What happens when leaders and shepherds consistently cause harm to the flock they are supposed to feed and protect? Sadly, some of our leaders have abused their roles and abandoned their responsibilities, but how should God's people respond? In a portion of his prophetic message, Ezekiel shares a time when God spoke to him concerning the shepherds of Israel, His sheep, and His plan to shepherd them once and for all. How can you use this word to encourage someone who has been hurt by a church leader? Why is this important for the church to know and share?

"The LORD is my shepherd; I have what I need. He lets me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside quiet waters. He renews my life; he leads me along the right paths for his name's sake. Even when I go through the darkest valley, I fear no danger, for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me." -Psalm 23:1-4

Contrast of God's Faithful Response

● God's Judgement Against The Shepherds (V. 1-10)

● God's Justice For The Sheep (V. 11-31)

Application:

- ✓ In your journal, write down some ways you can be an encouragement to the flock, your fellow brothers and sisters, in the Lord.
- ✓ In your prayer time, pray for your leaders and pastors that they would not fall into selfishness or greed, but remain humble.

Meditate on the following verses: Isaiah 40:11; Micah 5:4; John 10:11-13; 1 Peter 2:25; Revelation 7:17

"Now may the God of peace, who brought up from the dead our Lord Jesus the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the everlasting covenant, equip you with everything good to do his will, working in us what is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen." -Hebrews 13:20-21