Shepherding the Flock: C.A.R.E. - A Model for Pastoral Ministry

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Abstract
A seminary graduate is often well equipped in a variety of areas including preaching, languages, church growth, and the like. One area that graduates often feel ill equipped is the practical area of pastoral care; however, every minister, whether in a church of ten or ten thousand, must have a way to effectively deal with this part of their ministry. From a review of the literature and a survey of pastors, this project will confirm the current need for further training in the area of pastoral care. In addition, this project will offer a plan to meet those needs within a congregation.

A well-developed pastoral care ministry in the church offers care for the congregation, and an opportunity to reach the unchurched by demonstrating compassion. Every church, regardless of size, must give attention to the pastoral needs of the church to fulfill scriptural admonitions and produce a healthy congregation.

Pastoral care is a contemporary term for an ancient model of emotional, social and spiritual support that can be found in all cultures and traditions. The term is considered inclusive of distinctly non-religious forms of support, as well as support for people from religious communities. Pastoral care is a contemporary term distinct from traditional pastoral ministry. Pastoral care is non-religious and scientific. Pastoral care is the recognition of systems of belief. Spirituality in the context of Shepherding God's Flock is both a textbook for students of pastoral ministry and a handbook for pastors. Jay Adams is well-known for his practical and thorough approach to the many issues of Christian counseling. That same practicality and thoroughness is found in this unparalleled handbook on pastoral ministry. Pastoral Life deals with the pastor, his calling, and the general care he provides the flock. Pastoral Counseling provides an overview of the task and a general approach for pastoral counselors. Pastoral Leadership offers a perspective on the ways the pastor can lead the church in its many tasks and responsibilities. About the Author. A pastor is an example to his flock and should always be aware that others are looking to him as a model. While a pastor should model righteous behavior, he must also model confession and repentance, acknowledging he is also a sinner and teaching his people how to apply the gospel to life. 5. Visit the sick. This much-neglected biblical teaching calls for pastors to be responsible for the widows of the church and to find creative ways to model care for widows by involving their families and other members of the church in caring for these special women. 8. Confront sin. Pastors need to confront sin and lead the church in the exercise of discipline in the hope of repentance and restoration. "Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight"—that's one word in the original language, and it essentially means "to take care of" the flock. The meaning here is crystal-clear and actually quite simple. God has entrusted certain people to you and me as
pastors to care for them. Yet if we are not careful, as pastors, we can so easily look past them, can’t we? There is no place in pastoral ministry for personal pressure, sexual provocation, or political plotting. There is no place in pastoral ministry for unrighteous anger or any kind of temper. In telling the story of Charles Simeon, it’s easy to highlight his strengths and ignore his weaknesses. But he was obviously not perfect, and he had a bad habit of getting angry about small things.