

I. Intro – “Improve Upon Our Baptism”

- A. Concept of Westminster divines
- B. We “improve” our baptism while viewing others
- C. Remind ourselves of call, vows, grace, etc.
- D. Similar today - improve your own call & walk
- E. Much of this required of all – applied to Perry

II. The Call To Be A Man of the Word

- A. Scripture (1 Ti 4:13,16; 2 Tim 4:1-4; Ezra 7:10)
- B. Reasons this is important
 - 1. Personal feeding
 - 2. To guide your personal life and thought
 - 3. To allow you to understand & teach sound doctrine
 - 4. To feed the flock
 - 5. To correct, rebuke and encourage the flock

III. The Call To Live a Godly Life

- A. Scripture (1 Tim 4:16; Ezra 7:10; 1 Pet 5:3; quals)
- B. Reasons this is important
 - 1. We must practice what we believe & teach

- a. All else is hypocrisy
- b. Must be growing in sanctification, fruit

- 2. We must “incarnate” the Word before others

IV. The Call To Shepherd the Flock

- A. Scripture (1 Pet 5:2; Acts 20:28)
- B. Reasons this is important
 - 1. Leaders must feed the flock
 - 2. Leaders must care for the flock
 - 3. Leaders must protect the flock
 - 4. Leaders must equip the flock - & let them go!

V. The Call To Serve As Part of A Team

- A. Scripture (1 Peter 5:1; Phil 1:1; Acts 20:28)
- B. Reasons
 - 1. The team of elders needs you!
 - 2. You need the team of elders!

VI. Our Call: Point Others to Christ (2 Cor 4:5)

VII. The Ordination Covenant Ceremony

The Noble Call of Church Leadership

1 Timothy 3:1

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Ordination for Perry

Numbers 6 - Perry

13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching... 16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Timothy 4:13,16

1 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: **2 Preach the Word**; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage-- **with great patience and careful instruction**.
3 For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. 4 They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. 2 Tim 4:1-4

10 For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel. Ezra 7:10

16 Watch your life and doctrine **closely**. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Timothy 4:16

10 For Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the LORD, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel. Ezra 7:10

3 not lording it over those entrusted to you, but **being examples to the flock**.
1 Peter 5:3

2 Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, 1 Peter 5:2

28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the **flock** of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. **Be shepherds of the church of God**, which he bought with his own blood. Acts 20:28

1 To the **elders** among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: 1 Pet 5:1

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the **overseers** and deacons: Philippians 1:1

28 Keep watch over **yourselves** and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you **overseers**. **Be shepherds** of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. Acts 20:28

5 For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. 2 Corinthians 4:5