

May 5, 2025 Mindful Monday “Feed My Sheep”

In Sunday’s worship, Pastor Dianna’s message asked why did Jesus tell Peter to “Feed my sheep”? Jesus not only tells him once, but 3 times.

Jesus gave Peter a three-fold command to “Feed My Sheep” in John 21, versus 15-17. Each time Jesus said, “Feed my sheep,” it was in response to Peter’s declaration of love for Jesus. This took place during one of the last of Jesus’ post-resurrection appearances to His disciples on the shores of the Sea of Galilee. Jesus had prepared a breakfast of fish and bread for the group and then commissioned Peter with the task of feeding His sheep as well as tending His lambs.

The three commands, often translated in the same way, are subtly different. When Jesus first says it, the Greek means literally mean to “pasture or tend to, or care for the Lambs.” In this usage, Believers are referred to as sheep regularly in the Scriptures. Psalms 97: 7 reads, “For He is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care”.

The second time Jesus was emphasizing tending the sheep in a supervisory capacity, not only feeding but ruling over them. John 21:16

The third time, the literal translation is “Pasture as in tend the sheep” John 21:17. Here Jesus combines the different Greek words to make clear the job of the shepherds of the flock of God. It is the shepherds job to nourish and care for their souls and bring them into the fullness of spiritual maturity.

This bodes the question, “What is the shepherd to feed the flock of God?” Simply stated, it can be none other than the Word of God. The importance of the Word of God as food for our souls cannot be over-emphasized.

This week’s prayers are for Craig Horrigan. Craig had successful open-heart surgery on Wednesday. He is on the road to recovery. We praise God for his healing. We continue to pray for George Barlow, David Ingram, Fink Family, Jerry & Bea Gilland, Judy Helm-Burns, Joanne Reiman and Floyd & Dona Seiberling.

The Region requests prayers for the following churches and support personnel, First Christian Church, Vinton, Iowa, Dick Jumper, Dana Worrell-Jumper, Chris Conklin, Marian Hart and the Christian Church in Pennsylvania.