

# Watching Out For Our Souls

*"I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock." Acts 20:29 (English Standard Version)*

We are \_\_\_\_\_ when parents leave children \_\_\_\_\_.

## Care And Oversight For Christ's Flock

- A. John 21:15-17 - \_\_\_\_\_ times Jesus charged \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_. But after Peter was gone ...?
- B. Who will care for and oversee Christ's flock?
  1. 1 Peter 5:1,2a - The "\_\_\_\_\_ among you" were to \_\_\_\_\_ the flock of God.
  2. Acts 14:21-23 - Paul and Barnabas \_\_\_\_\_ elders in \_\_\_\_\_ church. They knew that \_\_\_\_\_ was near.
  3. Acts 20:28,29 - The elders of the church at Ephesus were urged as \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ for the church. He knew that fierce \_\_\_\_\_ would soon come.
  4. Hebrews 13:17 - Christians are to \_\_\_\_\_ their leaders and \_\_\_\_\_ to them. They keep \_\_\_\_\_ over our \_\_\_\_\_, and will give an \_\_\_\_\_.
  5. Ephesians 4:11,12 - \_\_\_\_\_ gave the office of shepherds (among others) for \_\_\_\_\_ up the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.

## Those Who Shepherd Christ's Flock Must Be Qualified

- A. Titus 1:5 - Without good elders, something is \_\_\_\_\_ in a church.
- B. Who may serve as an elder of a congregation?
  1. Titus 1:5,6a - The word \_\_\_\_\_ shows that not just anyone should be considered. There are \_\_\_\_\_ to be met.
  2. 1 Timothy 3:2a - "An overseer \_\_\_\_\_ be" ... confirms this.
  3. Don't most \_\_\_\_\_ listings have \_\_\_\_\_ qualifications for applicants?
  4. Titus 1:5-9 - This passage (as well as 1 Timothy 3:1-7) lists \_\_\_\_\_ criteria for those who serve as elders. The entire \_\_\_\_\_ must be attentive to these qualifications.
- C. 3 John 9,10 - We cannot be \_\_\_\_\_ in this process, or else we may empower men like \_\_\_\_\_.

John 10:12,13 - A \_\_\_\_\_ shepherd will be \_\_\_\_\_ to the well-being of the flock he is watching.

*Central Church of Christ, Johnson City, Tennessee, May 20, 2018, a.m.*