

A Worthy Work

1 Timothy 5:17-18

There is a unique covenant commitment between an elder who is set apart vocationally for the ministry of the gospel and the church he serves.

1. Is there a difference between elders and pastors?
 - a. All elders _____ and _____.
 - b. Pastors are especially _____ to lead and teach.
2. What is the pastor's commitment to the church he serves?
 - a. He commits himself to lead his _____ well.
 - b. He commits himself to _____ in gospel ministry and teaching.
3. What is the congregation's commitment to their pastor?
 - a. You commit to honor and respect the _____ God has given you.
 - b. You commit to honor your pastors with _____ provision.

A Worthy Work

1 Timothy 5:17-18

An open Bible with aged, yellowed pages is placed on a dark, polished wooden table. The background is a blurred church sanctuary with rows of wooden pews and bright light streaming in from windows, creating a warm and serene atmosphere.

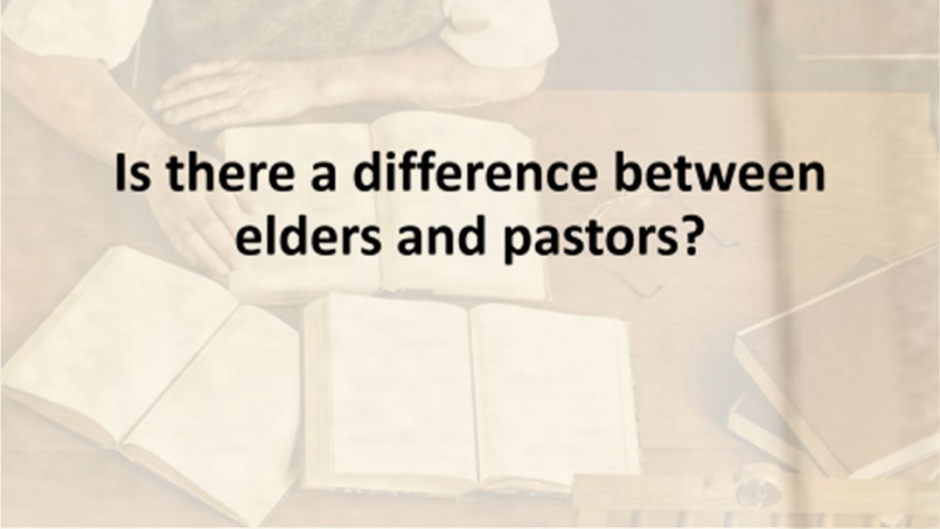
1 Timothy 5:17-18

The elders who *lead* well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard *in the word* and teaching. For the Scripture says, “You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,” and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

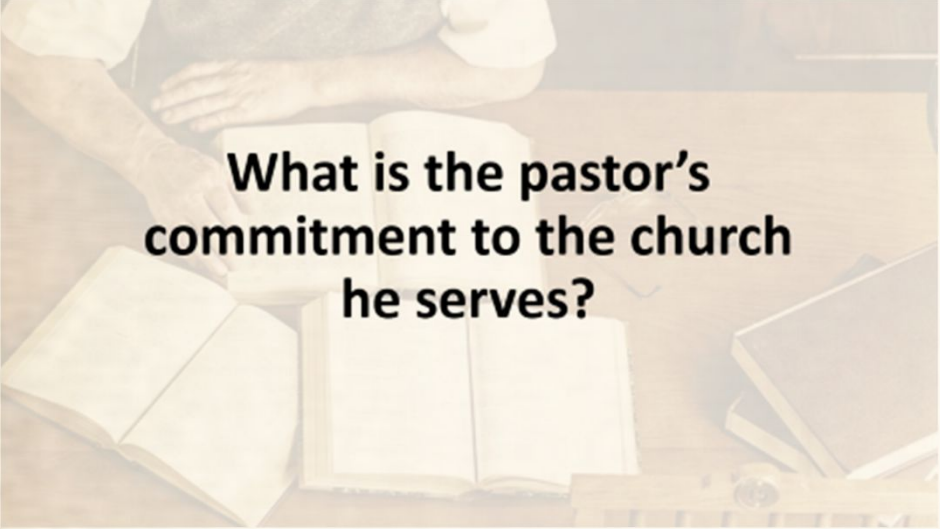
Theme

There is a unique covenant commitment between an elder who is set apart vocationally for the ministry of the gospel and the church he serves.

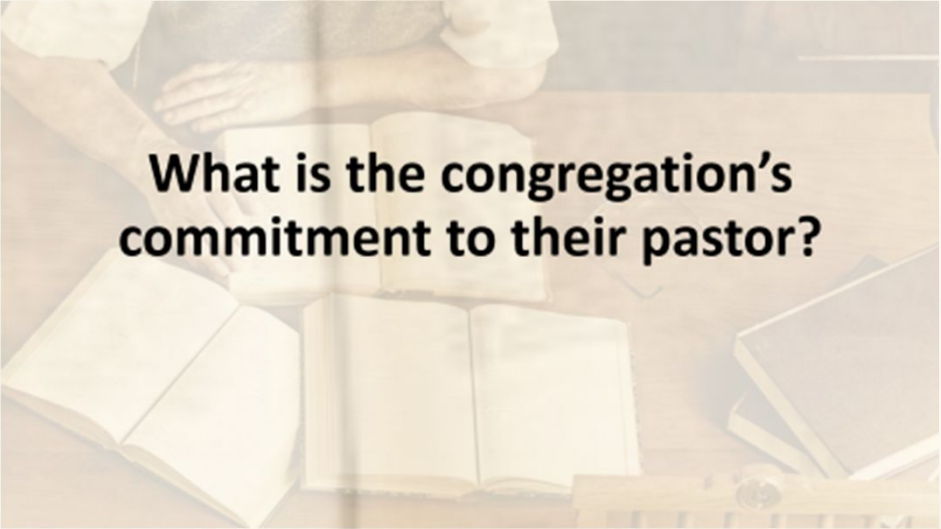
A Worthy Work



**Is there a difference between
elders and pastors?**



**What is the pastor's
commitment to the church
he serves?**



**What is the congregation's
commitment to their pastor?**

A top-down view of a person's hands resting on an open Bible on a wooden table. Several other books are scattered around, and a pair of glasses is visible. The scene is softly lit, creating a calm and studious atmosphere.

**Is there a difference between
elders and pastors?**

Elders vs. Pastors

All elders lead and teach.

1 Timothy 5:17-18

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“You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,”
and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

Elders who *lead well* are distinguished
from elders who lead.

But Paul would not have had a
category for *qualified* elders
who were leading poorly.

All Elders Lead

1 Timothy 3:1

It is a trustworthy statement:
if any man aspires to the office of overseer,
it is a fine work he desires to do.

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if any man aspires to the **office of overseer,**

it is a fine work he desires to do.

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1 Timothy 3:5

...but if a man does not know
how to *lead* his own household,
how will he take care of the church of God?

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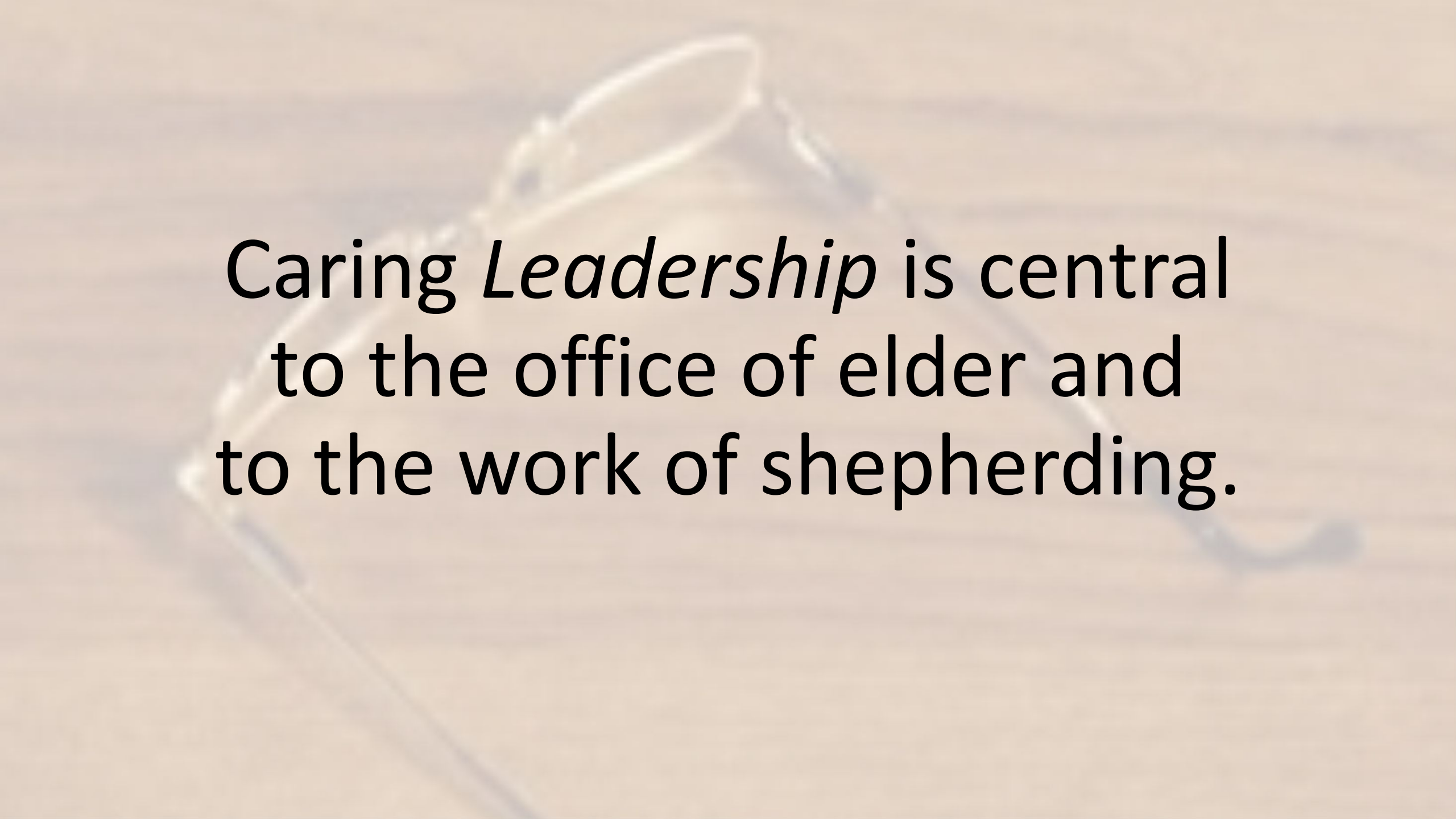
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All Elders Lead

1 Timothy 3:5

...but if a man does not know
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church** of God?

A faint, stylized background image of a shepherd with a staff and sheep. The shepherd is positioned in the upper center, holding a long staff that extends towards the bottom right. Several sheep are scattered around the shepherd, some facing him and others looking away. The entire scene is rendered in a light, monochromatic style, blending into the background.

Caring *Leadership* is central
to the office of elder and
to the work of shepherding.

All Elders Teach

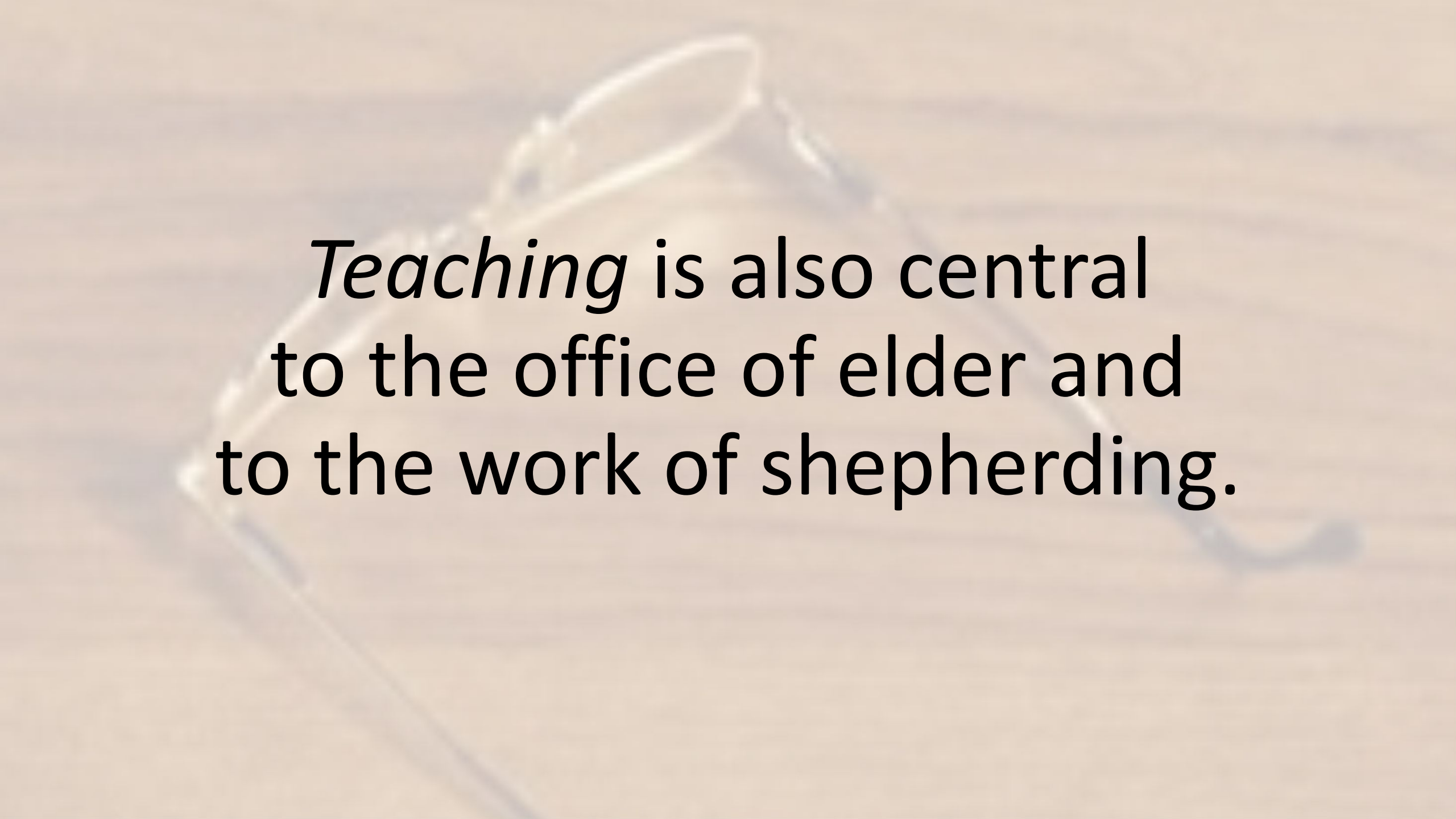
1 Timothy 3:2

An overseer, then, must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach...

All Elders Teach

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An overseer, then, **must be** above reproach,
the husband of one wife, temperate, prudent,
respectable, hospitable, **able to teach**...

A faint, stylized background image of a shepherd with a staff and sheep. The shepherd is positioned in the upper center, holding a staff that extends downwards. Below the shepherd, several sheep are visible, rendered in a simple, light-colored style. The entire scene is set against a light, textured background.

Teaching is also central
to the office of elder and
to the work of shepherding.

The “teaching work”?

Titus 1:7 and 9

The overseer must be...holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, that he may be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.

The “teaching work”?

Titus 1:7 and 9

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The Teaching Content

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that he may be able both to exhort in sound doctrine
and to refute those who contradict.

Elders vs. Pastors

All elders lead and teach.

Pastors are **especially gifted**
to lead and teach.

Especially Gifted to Lead

1 Timothy 5:17-18

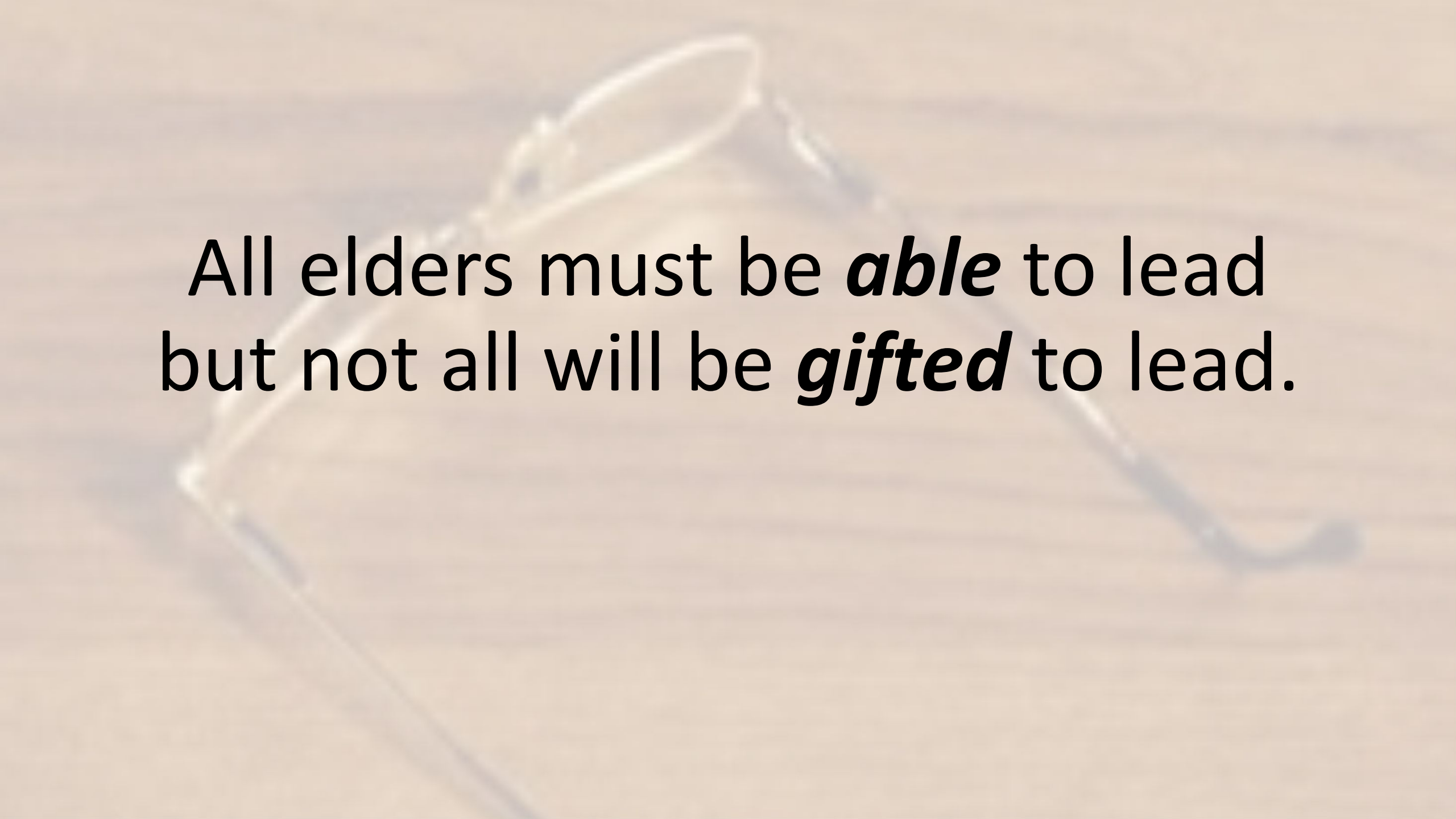
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Especially Gifted to Lead

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considered worthy of double honor,
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A pair of glasses with a light-colored frame and clear lenses is positioned diagonally across the background. The background is a light, neutral color with a subtle texture. The text is centered over the image.

All elders must be *able* to lead
but not all will be *gifted* to lead.

Especially Gifted to Teach

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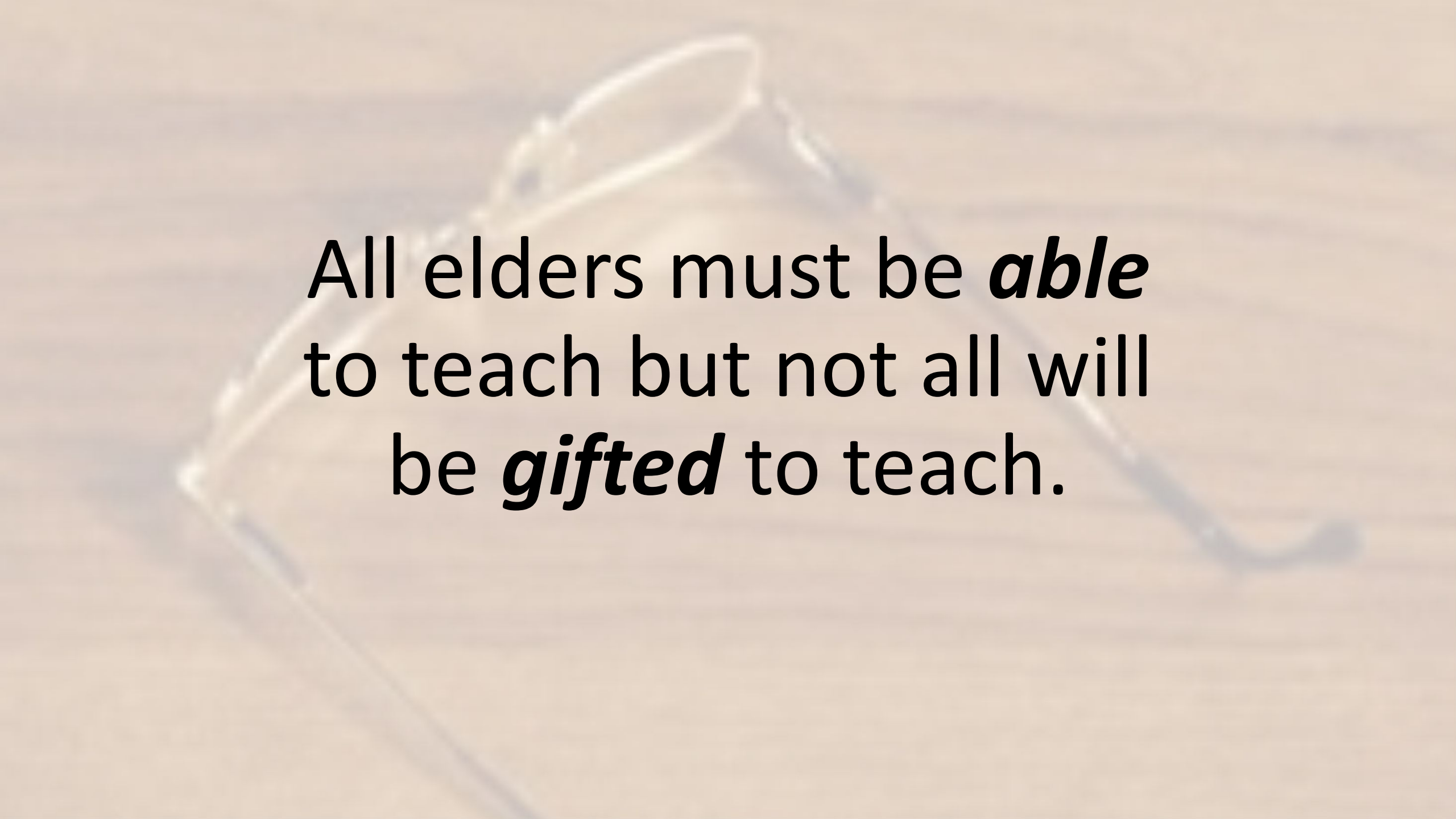
Especially Gifted to Teach

1 Timothy 5:17-18

The elders who lead well are to be considered worthy of double honor,

especially those who **work hard in the word and teaching**. For the Scripture says,

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All elders must be ***able***
to teach but not all will
be ***gifted*** to teach.

Elders vs. Pastors

All elders lead and teach.

Pastors are especially gifted to lead and teach.

Pastors are **set apart**
to lead and teach.

Those who are set apart.

1 Timothy 5:17-18

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especially **those who work hard** in the word

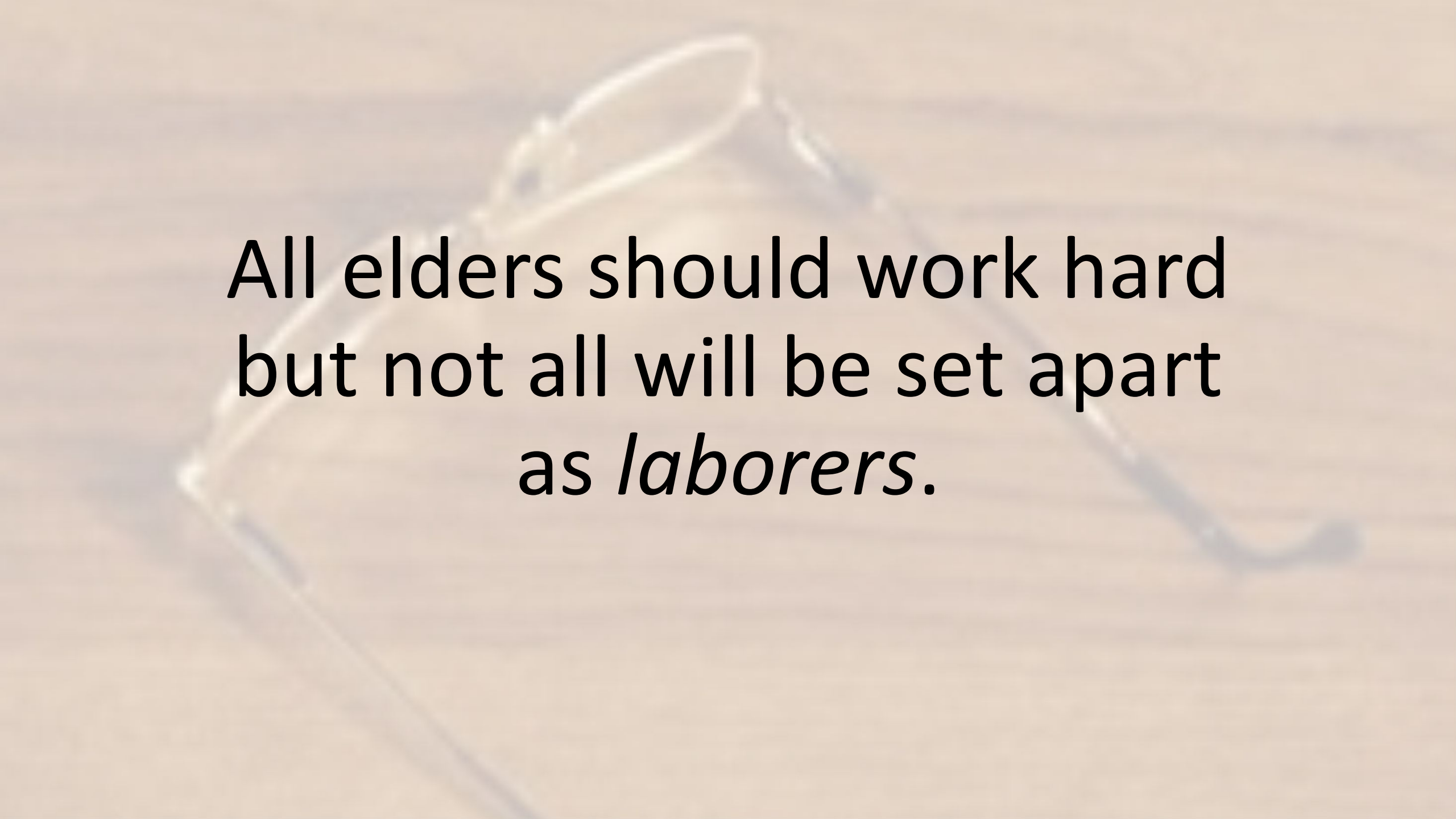
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“You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,”
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Set apart for vocation.

1 Timothy 5:17-18

The elders who lead well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard in the word and teaching. For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,"

and "The laborer is worthy of his wages."



All elders should work hard
but not all will be set apart
as *laborers*.

Set apart for gospel work.

Acts 13:2

And while they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”

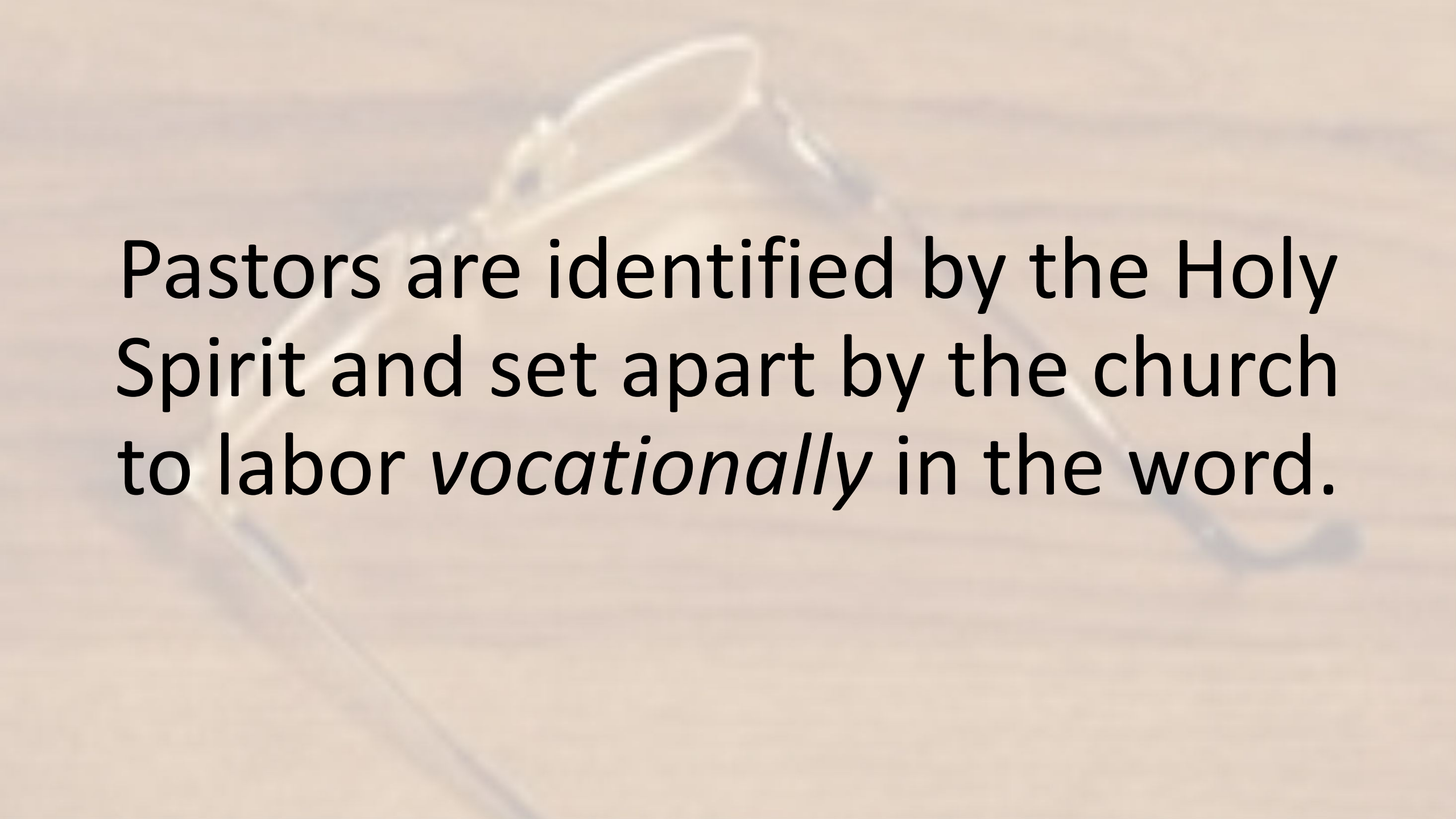
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Pastors are identified by the Holy Spirit and set apart by the church to labor *vocationally* in the word.

Set apart for gospel *vocation*.

Acts 13:2

And while they were ministering
to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said,
“Set apart for Me Barnabas and Saul for the work

to which I have *called* them.”

Is there reason to call them *pastors*?

Ephesians 4:11-12

And He gave some as apostles,
and some as prophets, and some as evangelists,
and some as pastors and teachers,
for the equipping of the saints for the work of service,
to the building up of the body of Christ...

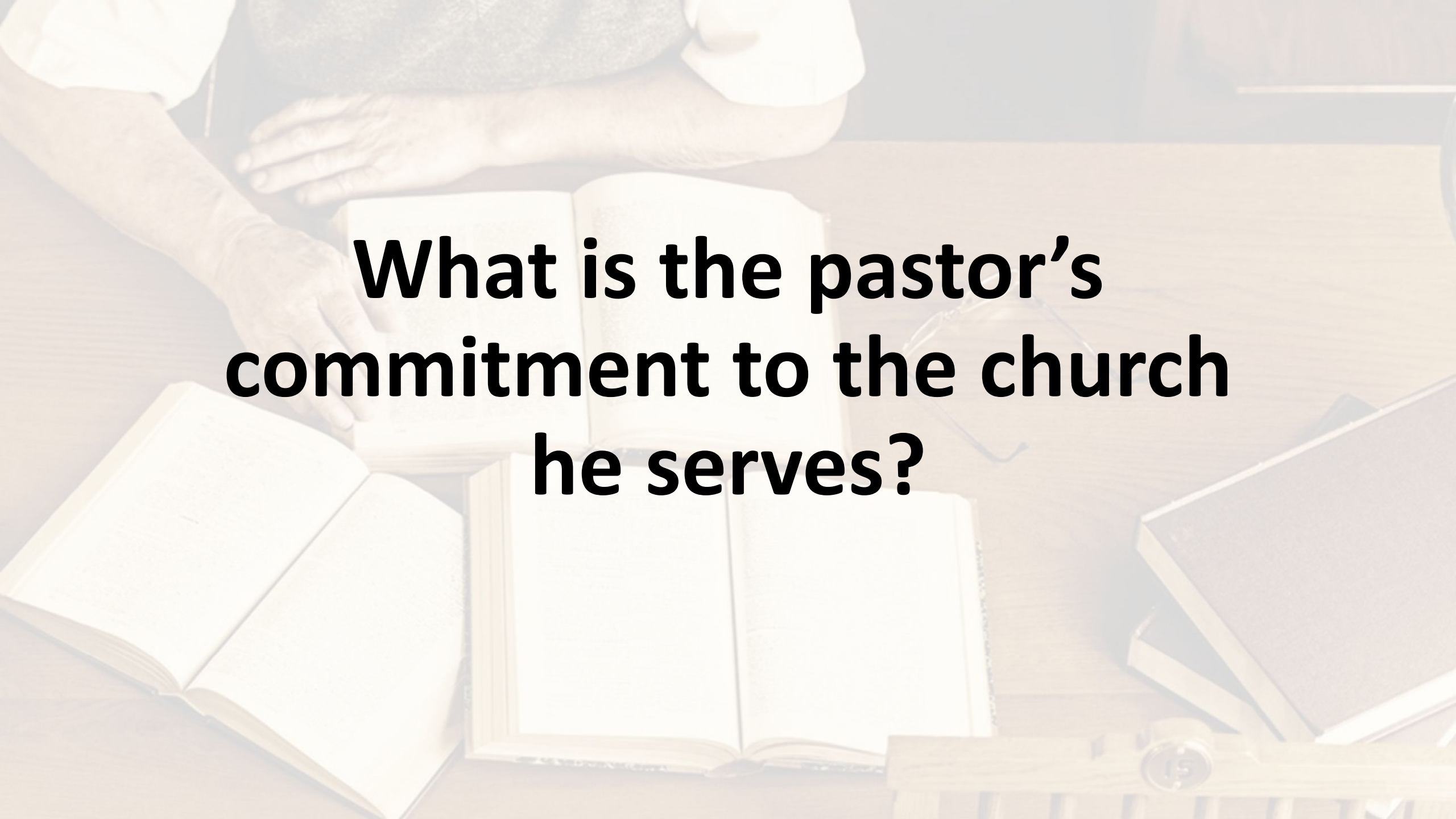
“Pastors”

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and some as prophets, and some as evangelists,

and some as **pastors and teachers,**

for the equipping of the saints for the work of service,
to the building up of the body of Christ...

A top-down view of a person's hands resting on an open book on a wooden desk. The person is wearing a white shirt and a grey sweater. The desk is cluttered with several other books, a pair of glasses, and a small clock. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

**What is the pastor's
commitment to the church
he serves?**

The Pastor's Covenant

A pastor commmits himself
to lead his congregation well.

Committed Care

1 Timothy 5:17-18

The **elders who lead well** are to be

considered worthy of double honor,
especially those who work hard in the word
and teaching. For the Scripture says,
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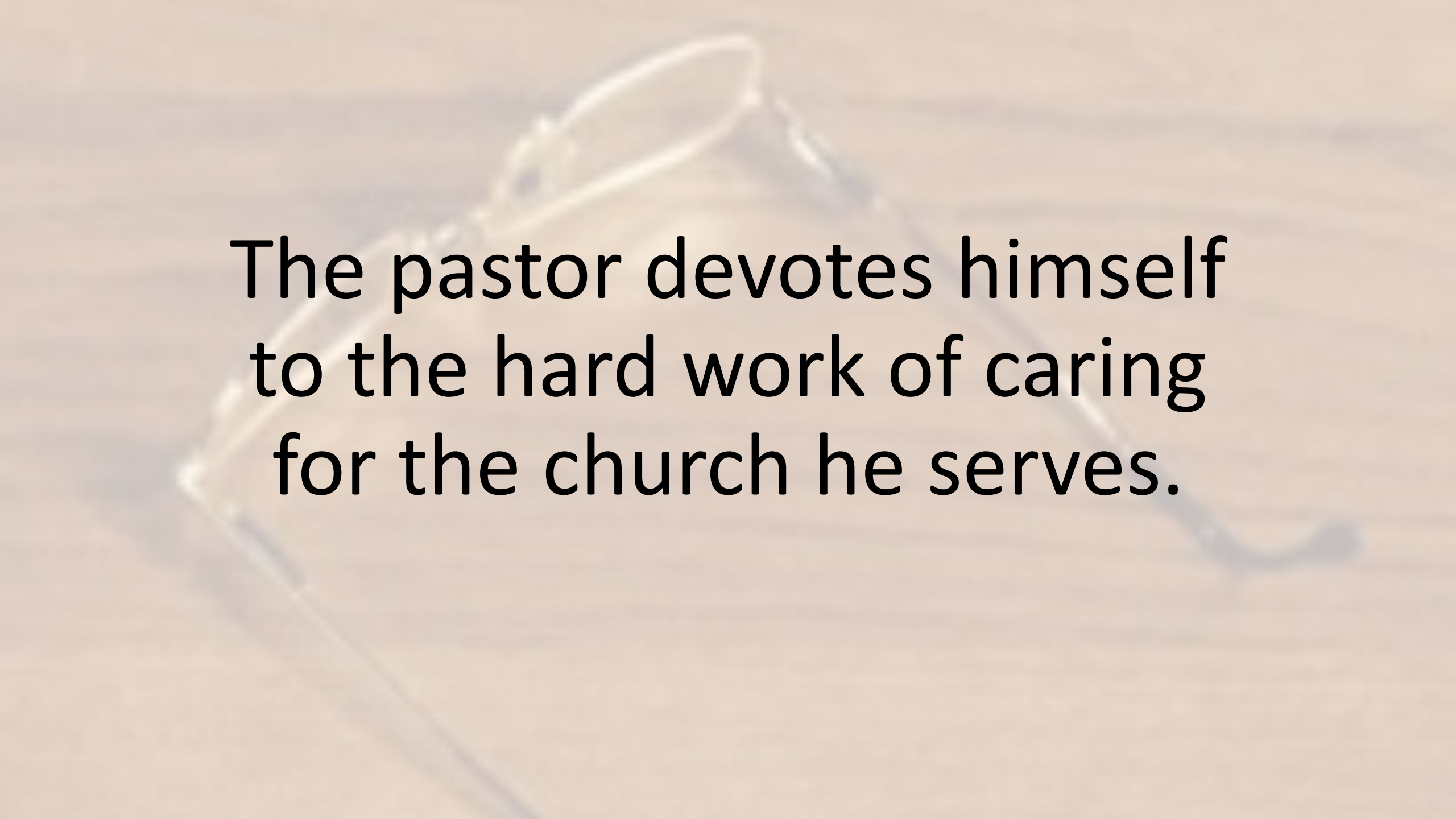
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and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”



The pastor devotes himself
to the hard work of caring
for the church he serves.

1 Timothy 3:5

...but if a man does not know
how to lead his own household,

how will he take care of the church of God?

The care he gives is soul care!

Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders, and submit to them;
for they keep watch over your souls,
as those who will give an account.

The care he gives is soul care!

Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders, and submit to them;

for **they keep watch over your souls,**

as those who will give an account.

It is diligent care.

1 Thessalonians 5:12

But we request of you, brethren, that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you, and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction...

It is diligent care.

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The Pastor's Covenant

A pastor commits himself to lead his congregation well.

A pastor commmits himself to toil
in **gospel** ministry and teaching.

1 Timothy 5:17-18

The **elders** who lead well are to be
considered worthy of double honor,

especially those ***who work hard*** in the word

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In Gospel Ministry

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In Gospel Teaching

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The elders who lead well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard in the word

and teaching. For the Scripture says,

“You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,”
and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

All of a pastor's labor is oriented around the gospel and is aimed at *gospel-shaped* care and instruction.

It is solemn and weighty work.

2 Timothy 4:1-3

I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine...

It is costly work.

2 Timothy 2:3 and 10

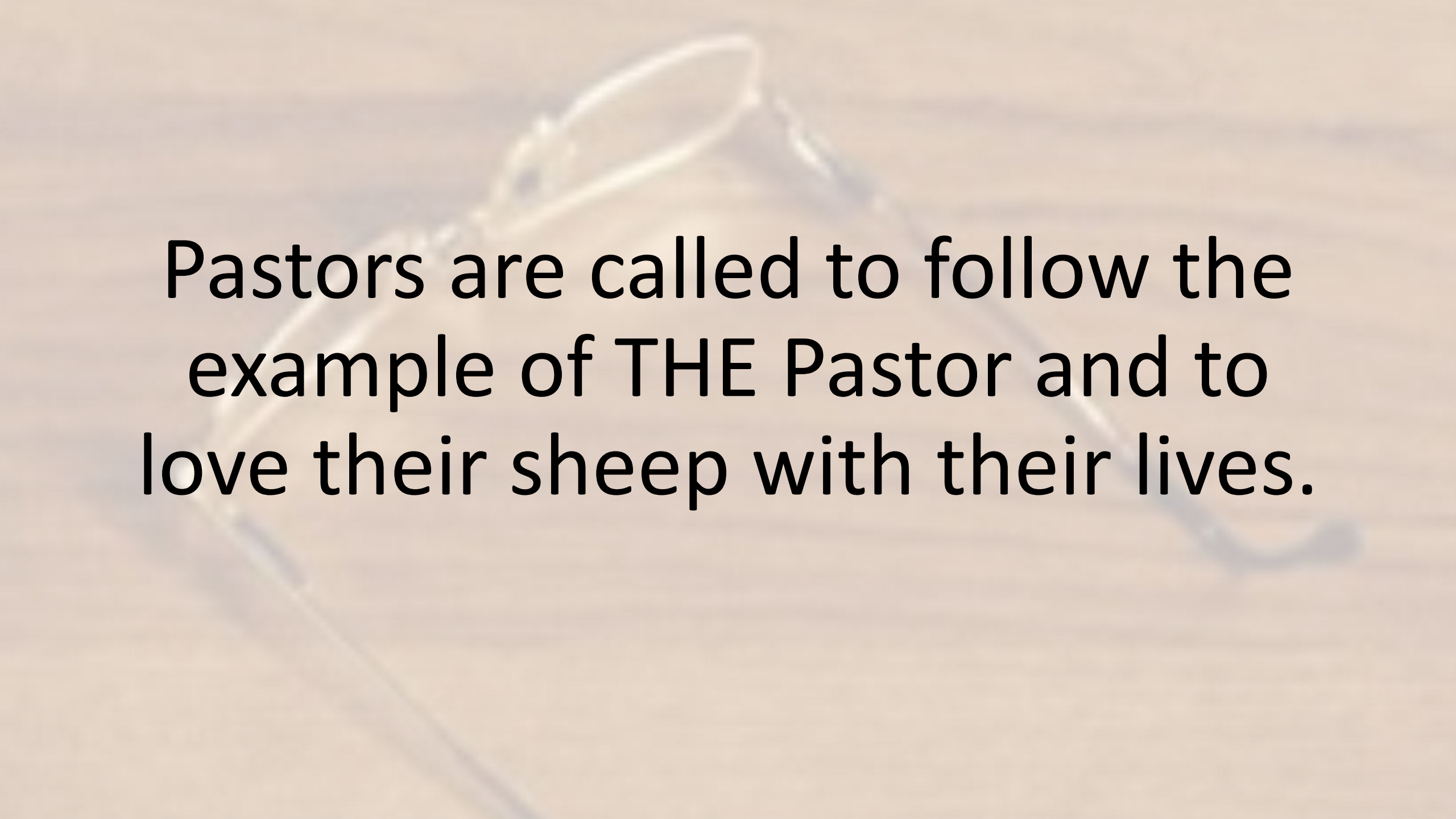
Suffer hardship with me,
as a good soldier of Christ Jesus...

For this reason I **endure all things**
for the sake of those who are chosen,
that they also may obtain the salvation
which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.

It is sacrificial work.

John 10:14-15

I am the good *shepherd* (*pastor*);
and I know My own, and My own know Me,
even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father;
and **I lay down My life for the sheep.**



Pastors are called to follow the example of THE Pastor and to love their sheep with their lives.

A top-down view of a person reading a book on a wooden table. The person's hands are resting on the pages of the book. Several other books are scattered on the table around the main book. The scene is softly lit, creating a warm and focused atmosphere.

**What is the congregation's
commitment to their pastor?**

The Congregation's Covenant

You commit to honor and respect
the elders God has given you.

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What is the first honor?

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considered worthy of **double honor**,

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“You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,”
and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

All elders are to be honored.

1 Timothy 5:17-18

The **elders** who lead well **are to be**
considered worthy of double **honor**,

especially those who work hard in the word
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“You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,”
and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

Pastors are *additionally* honored.

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What is the first honor?

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

But we request of you, brethren,
that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you,
and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction,
and that you esteem them very highly in love
because of their work.

Warm Recognition

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

But we request of you, brethren,

that you ***appreciate*** those who
diligently labor among you,

and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction,
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Intimate knowledge

John 10:14-15

I am the good *shepherd* (*pastor*);
and I know My own, and My own know Me,
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High Regard

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because of their work.

Based in Love

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

But we request of you, brethren,
that you appreciate those who diligently labor among you,
and have charge over you in the Lord and give you instruction,

and that you esteem them very highly **in love**
because of their work.

Honoring them.

Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders, and submit to them;
for they keep watch over your souls,
as those who will give an account.
Let them do this with joy and not with grief,
for this would be unprofitable for you.

For their joy

Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders, and submit to them;
for they keep watch over your souls,
as those who will give an account.

Let them do this with joy and not with grief,
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For their joy

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for they keep watch over your souls,
as those who will give an account.

Let them do this with joy **and not with grief,**
for this would be unprofitable for you.

For your good

Hebrews 13:17

Obey your leaders, and submit to them;
for they keep watch over your souls,
as those who will give an account.
Let them do this with joy and not with grief,

**for this would be unprofitable
for you.**

The Congregation's Covenant

You commit to honor and respect the elders God has given you.

You commit to honor your pastors
with financial provision.

What is the *double* honor?

1 Timothy 5:17-18

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especially those who work hard in the word
and teaching. For the Scripture says,
“You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing,”
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It is financial provision.

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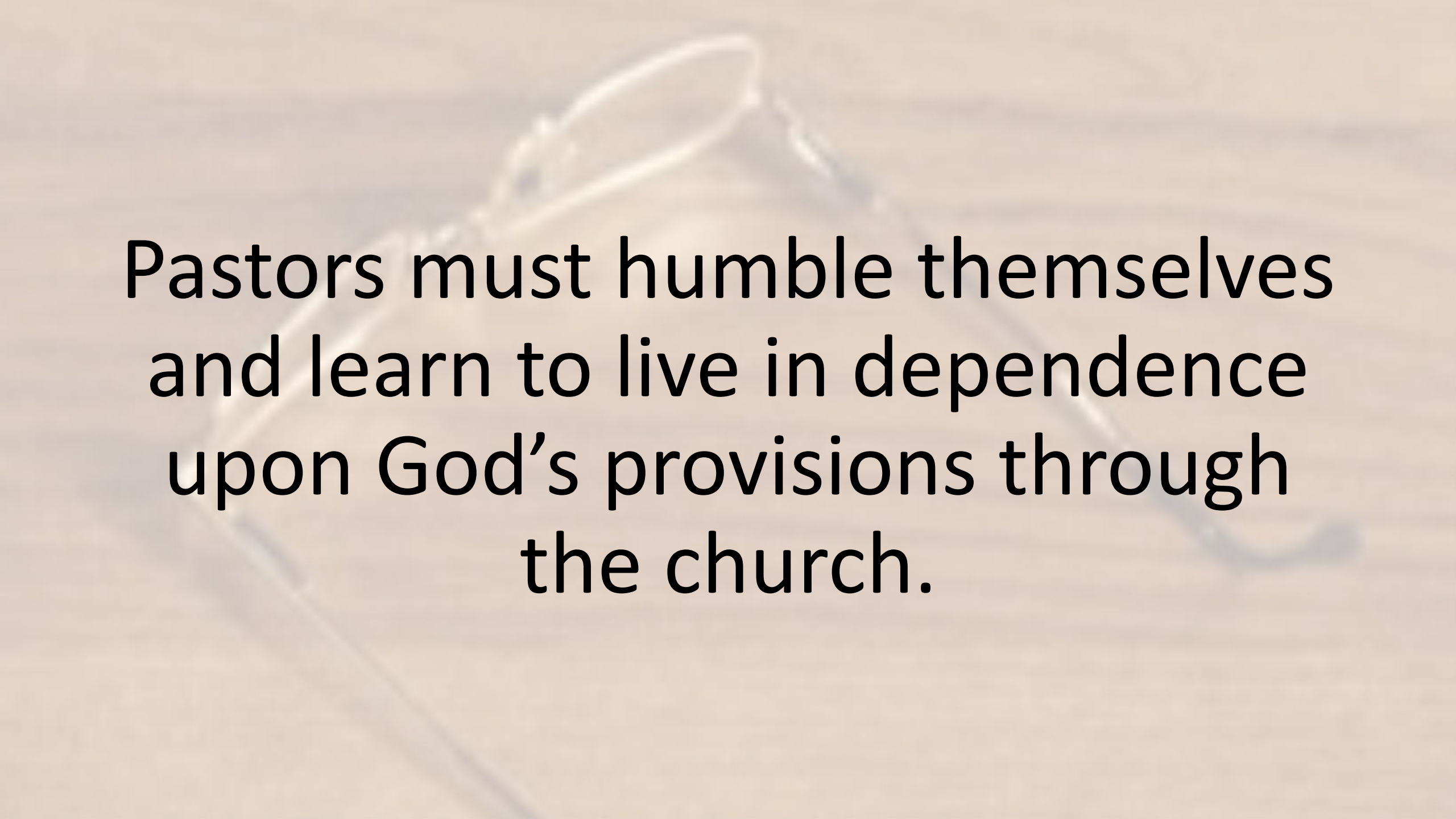
and “The laborer is worthy of his wages.”

It is financial provision.

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and "**The laborer is worthy of his wages.**"



Pastors must humble themselves
and learn to live in dependence
upon God's provisions through
the church.

1 Corinthians 9:14

So also the Lord directed those who proclaim the gospel to **get their living from the gospel.**

Conclusions:

Pastoral ministry is worthy work.

Healthy churches will have a bond with their pastors that mirrors the bond between Christ and His Church.