

SCC Small Group Discussion
Full Steam Ahead: Leadership Lessons

Derived from a sermon on August 23, 2026 by Dr. Jeff Chandler

Getting Started:

Opener: Do you have a favorite pastor or Christian mentor from some period in your life? If so, what comes to mind about them?

Searching the Scriptures:

Read 1 Peter 5:1-5

1. Why do you think Peter appeals to other church leaders in this way, by stating he is a “fellow elder”?

2. What words come to mind when you think of God as the “model Shepherd”? (if you can’t think of anything, look up Psalm 23).

3. What does it mean for Christian leaders to “care for the flock”?

4. With many churches like ours that are larger than 100 members, the church staff and elders have a more difficult time personally caring for each person. How should pastors in this situation look at their leadership role, and how can small group facilitators and other volunteer leaders like deacons help cover these needs?

Peter chooses to contrast several different kinds of attitudes one can have as a leader of others.

- Grudgingly vs. Willingly
 - Personal gain vs. Eagerness to serve God
 - Lording it over vs. Being an example.
5. Have you ever been tempted by the former attitudes in your parenting, work, or other roles? What circumstances tend to move us to these more negative states?
6. What mindset is needed to have the more positive attitudes Peter is talking about? What needs to be overcome to get there?
7. What do you think Peter means by “crown of never ending glory and honor”?

Application

What qualities of a shepherd are ironic? (Was it an esteemed job?). How does this translate into the Christian life?

Are you more like a sheep, shepherd or a hired worker? (see John 10:11-15)

Get discussion questions in word format & link to Bible App plan for this week at www.sequimcommunitychurch.org/downloads