



RC2 LEADER SHEET 7 SHEPHERDS AND SERVANTS

Christ Cares for His Church Through Faithful Leadership and Service

SESSION AIM

Help teachers and group leaders explain the biblical purpose of church leadership, the difference between shepherding and domination, and how servant leadership strengthens the body of Christ.

BIG IDEA

Christ is the Chief Shepherd of His church. He appoints leaders to teach, protect, equip, and care for His people, while also calling every believer into humble service and mutual ministry within the body.

WHAT THIS SESSION BUILDS UPON

From Leader Sheets 1–6:

- The church is gathered by Christ.
- Christianity is covenant life together.
- Every believer participates in ministry.
- Christ builds His body through shared life.

This Session Expands:

- Biblical leadership.
- Shepherding and care.
- Servant-hearted ministry.
- Leadership under Christ's authority.

FOUNDATIONAL SCRIPTURES

- 1 Peter 5:1–4
- Acts 20:28
- Ephesians 4:11–16
- Mark 10:42–45
- Titus 1:5–9

PRINCIPLE

Christ is the Chief Shepherd. He cares for His church through faithful leaders and calls every believer to serve with humility, love, and devotion.

**One Lord. One Kingdom.
One People. One Shepherd.**

RECOMMENDED VISUALS

- Shepherds and Servants
- Gifts and Shared Ministry
- The Gathered Church
- One Another Commands
- Sheep Need the Flock

NEXT STEPS

- Continue with RC2 Leader Sheet 8.
- Review the Shepherds and Servants visual.
- Discuss practical ways to support leaders.
- Encourage faithful service and participation.
- Keep Christ and covenant life central.

TEACHING FLOW: HOW TO USE THIS SHEET

1 BEGIN WITH CHRIST THE CHIEF SHEPHERD

- Christ owns the church.
- Leadership belongs under Him.
- All authority is accountable to Christ.

USE THIS:

- 1 Peter 5:4
- Articles
- Key Passages

KEY EMPHASIS: Christ rules His church.

2 TEACH THE ROLE OF SHEPHERDS

- Teaching God's Word.
- Protecting the flock.
- Feeding, prayer, and care.
- Oversight and watching over souls.

USE THIS:

- Shepherds and Servants
- Visual

KEY EMPHASIS: Leadership exists to care for the flock.

3 EXPLAIN SERVANT LEADERSHIP

- Humility, sacrifice, and service.
- Leaders set the example.
- Greatness is found in servanthood.

USE THIS:

- Mark 10:42–45
- Articles
- Examples

KEY EMPHASIS: Greatness in Christ's Kingdom is servanthood.

4 CONNECT LEADERSHIP TO EQUIPPING

- Ephesians 4: leaders equip the saints.
- Preparing believers for ministry.
- Strengthening the whole body.
- Produces active participation, not dependency.

USE THIS:

- Ephesians 4:11–16
- Visuals
- Notes

KEY EMPHASIS: Leaders equip the body for ministry.

5 ADDRESS MODERN DISTORTIONS

- Celebrity culture and personality-driven ministry.
- Authoritarianism and control.
- Anti-leadership individualism.
- Consumer expectations and entitlement.

USE THIS:

- Discussion Starters
- Examples

KEY EMPHASIS: Christ-centered leadership is humble and faithful.

6 APPLY PRACTICALLY

- Pray for leaders and their families.
- Serve humbly in the body.
- Encourage accountability and grace.
- Participate actively in ministry.

USE THIS:

- Application Ideas
- Handouts

KEY EMPHASIS: Every believer is called to serve.

KEY EMPHASES

CHRIST IS THE CHIEF SHEPHERD

All church leadership belongs under Him.

LEADERSHIP EXISTS TO SERVE

Biblical authority is servant-hearted.

SHEPHERDS CARE FOR SOULS

Leadership involves teaching, protection, and care.

LEADERS EQUIP THE SAINTS

Healthy leadership strengthens the whole body.

EVERY BELIEVER SERVES

The church grows through shared ministry together.

COMMON CONFUSIONS

- ✘ **"Pastors exist to perform religious services."**
Biblical shepherds equip and care for the flock.
- ✘ **"Leadership means domination."**
Christ-centered leadership is humble service.
- ✘ **"Church members are passive consumers."**
Every believer participates in ministry.
- ✘ **"Strong leadership means celebrity culture."**
Biblical leadership points people toward Christ, not personality.
- ✘ **"Service belongs only to official leaders."**
The New Testament calls every believer into service.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Why does Scripture describe leaders as shepherds?
- How does servant leadership differ from worldly leadership?
- Why is celebrity culture dangerous for the church?
- How should leaders equip believers for ministry?
- What responsibilities do church members have toward leaders?
- Why is humility essential for church leadership?

APPLICATION FOCUS

- ✓ Pray faithfully for church leaders.
- ✓ Serve humbly within the body.
- ✓ Encourage healthy accountability.
- ✓ Participate actively in ministry.
- ✓ Keep Christ central in leadership and service.

PRAYER FOCUS

- Pray for faithful shepherds.
- Pray for humility and wisdom in leadership.
- Pray for protection from pride and division.
- Pray for servant-hearted ministry.
- Pray for Christ to strengthen His church.