

# THE APPEARANCE



*Ephesians 2:20-22*

*Ephesians 4:11-16*

APOSTLES AND  
PROPHETS  
PREPARING THE  
EMERGING  
ARMY  
RELEASING THE  
ABILITIES AND  
NATURAL  
CALLINGS OF  
EVERYONE



## THE APOSTOLIC PASTOR # 1

### "The Apostolic Pastor"

#### What is an Apostolic Pastor?

The Greek word for *pastor* is (*poimen*), which means "one who tends sheep or takes care of a flock" (1 Peter 5:1-4; John 21:15-17). This word is used only in [Ephesians 4:11](#). Everywhere else in the New Testament, other words are used such as *shepherd*, *elder* and *overseer*. This seems to indicate a significant difference between these two types of ministries. An apostolic pastor is not simply a leader presiding over a local church, but has a much wider expression of ministry. As one of the five fold ministry, a pastor (*poimen*) is (in present terminology) a pastor of pastors, shepherds or elders. The Greek word (*episkopos*) is used for *overseer* or *bishop*. A pastor's emphasis in ministry has to do with networking of relationships in the local church body. The ministry of an *elder* (*presbuteros*) is not a particular type of ministry, but rather a leader in the local church body (1 Peter 5:1; 2 John 1; 3 John 1). An elder could be a bishop ([Titus 1:4-9](#)), a prophet ([Acts 15:22, 32](#)) or even an apostle ([2John 1; 1Peter 5:1](#)). There may be several elders/shepherds in a local church ([Acts 20:17; Titus 1:5](#)), and they are appointed and ordained by apostolic pastors and apostles ([Acts 14:23](#)). Five fold ministries are not appointed by men, but they are called by God. Whether a person is a five-fold pastor (*poimen*) or a bishop (*episkopos*) in charge of a local church body, they are called to be shepherds to the flock and feed them.

#### What a Pastor Does

Following the example of the Chief Shepherd (John 10:1-16), a pastor loves, protects, guides and feeds the sheep. As a child I remember going with my parents to the animal zoo. The animals were really cool, but what we found the most fun was the flock of ducks at the park, where we went and ate lunch. As a special treat we were eating fried chicken from a KFC, while we sat by and had a little picnic in the park. Well, as we got up to leave I felt sorry for the hungry ducks, so I took some of the left over chicken and threw it to them. One of them grabbed it and swallowed it whole, but as the food began to slide down the duck's throat, it got stuck. The duck started choking and gagging trying to spit the food out. Unable to get close to the duck to help, we had to leave it choking on the food. After the hysterical laughter had calmed down, some regrets began to flood our minds. Here we thought we were feeding them, and in fact we had harmed them. Perhaps that duck died, we will never know.

While the story has its funny side, it also has a serious side and a serious application. [Hebrews 5:14](#) "But solid food belongs to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." You are responsible for feeding your flock, and to be an effective pastor teacher you need to take one crumb at a time and throw it to the baby eagles in your care. In other words, you have to keep it simple. You need to feed them food that they can easily eat and digest without being harmed. They are not ready for the same level of teaching that you are feeding on. They are not ready for the doctrines of the fivefold ministries and offices. They need the very basics first: How much God loves them; How to talk to the Lord; How to read and feed on His word.

[Hebrews 5:14](#) tells us that solid food is for the mature. You need to start your eaglets on milk, so that they can begin to grow, rather than throwing them a chicken drumstick which may get caught in their throat and cause them to choke to death. For a newborn baby, you do not talk to them about death, and paying the price to follow Jesus. It is about life, how great life is serving the Lord. How wonderful it is to have the Holy Spirit living within our hearts. How exciting is this new environment in the church, meeting all of these new and interesting people. What a warm and comfortable feeling, so safe in the arms of our Father.

This is what you should be feeding them. This is the type of love and care they need. You should start by feeding them milk. Jesus loves you so much and accepts you as you are! You can tell Jesus when you mess up and He will forgive you! Trust in God, and He will answer your prayers and give you miracles! He will provide for your needs! He will never fail you! God has a great plan and purpose for your life! He came to give you a hope and a future. He has a purpose for you! He wants to pour His blessings upon you. It comes back to love, faith, and hope. As you feed them on these three things, they will start to grow and before you know it they will want to move onto solids, fruits and vegetables, and then onto meat.