



PROPHECY VITAMINS ON LEADERSHIP AND SHEPHERDING

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(All prophecies are Jesus speaking unless otherwise indicated.)

1. Being a shepherd means laying down your own life for the brethren, giving all that is within you, just as I did for the love of My sheep. It is a death, yes, but it is a death that is beautiful and glorious in My sight, bringing forth eternal and lasting fruit and the true beauties of spirit: sacrifice, humility, and love. No greater than these three walk among the children of men.
2. (Dad speaking:) It takes a lot of humility and a lot of yieldedness to be a leader.
3. (Jesus Speaking:) It takes a small man, insecure in his authority, to continually demand respect and loyalty, but a true leader inspires it by his sample, by his deeds, by his love, and by his care. When leaders give their lives for their people, the people love their leaders.
4. (Dad speaking:) God is God, and He knows His sheep. He knows His flock. He knows what they need, and He's going to give it to them, because He's the Good Shepherd Who cares for His flock, and it's His greatest desire to feed His flock and to give them what they need.
5. (Dad speaking:) It's time to start giving. That's what leadership is all about--giving--and depending on the Lord. It's time to wake up, tune in, and get desperate with the Lord. It's time to start depending more on the Lord and seeking Him more.
6. (Dad speaking:) If you don't spend quality time with the Lord every single day without fail, you will fail.
7. (Jesus Speaking:) You're constantly busy-busy, doing-doing, going-going, producing-producing, trying to be effective, trying to be efficient. But what you don't realize is that the most important kind of effectiveness is through prayer and through making sure that you go slow enough to really get the Lord's mind.
8. Just as the tide comes in and goes out, the moon rises and sets, the seasons come and go, so must a shepherd have the pouring out and the filling up again if he is to have the dying daily and the resurrection of new life.

9. A good shepherd loves the sheep--not just the pretty sheep, or the easy-to-lead sheep, or the outgoing and friendly sheep; he loves all the sheep. Impartial love is a very important quality; don't start your day without it.
10. If there is a conflict between you and one other person and you don't feel you can work it out between the two of you, get help, ask for prayer, and seek counsel from your shepherds.
11. As you build on this (hearing from the Lord) and as you learn to come to Me in this way, I will broaden your shepherding ability. I will strengthen and deepen your communications with each other. You'll be so thankful, because this kind of shepherding will bear the fruit that you so desire your shepherding to bear.
12. You need not fear, for in the absence of earthly leadership, I will still be your Good Shepherd, your Leader, and your Counselor. I will guide you towards My highest will and away from the traps of the Enemy.
13. Learning to get along with people of all ages and relate well to them is a skill well worth cultivating. It's highly sought after even in worldly circles and considered a valuable talent. And in My work of winning the world and becoming the leaders of tomorrow, which I've ordained for you to be, it's a "job critical" skill.
14. There are always going to be overseers and shepherds, and I have ordained it that way for many reasons. One reason is to teach people basic submission and humility--how to receive things from others and yield to them. Learning this vital lesson of humility and submission develops character, and is a necessary lesson and skill in any circle of life. It's especially important in the Family, in order to progress and grow in spirit the way I want you to.
15. The test of truly loyal and enduring leadership is when you're faced with a choice and you choose to believe the Lord and to forsake your own ways and wrong attitudes, even when the cost is a great humbling.
16. (Dad speaking:) It's the mark of a true leader when you're even willing to lead the way through acknowledging your weaknesses and sins. But that's what leaders are--those who are willing to live their lives completely open. Not only the good they do and the accolades they receive, but their willingness to lead the way in broadcasting the censure they receive. It takes true love and humility to do that.
17. (Jesus Speaking:) Remember that you cannot help anyone when you are not being well-fed and nourished yourself by My Word. You cannot feed people if your own storage of food is empty. You will be able to help people just as much as you yourself

are being helped by Me.

18. In My eyes, the leader is not greater than the follower. Everyone is needed; everyone plays a part to complete the whole.
19. If you are truly open to My direction in your life through My Word, prophecy, and the shepherding of those spiritually mature in Me, then you can rest assured that even when you begin to stray from My ways, you will quickly be brought back into full fellowship with Me and learn more about My wishes and desires.
20. A wonderful remedy is to share the battle with your shepherd or someone else who's strong and have them pray for you, which is like pouring a healing oil over you, to cleanse and wash the wound and start the healing process.
21. Where are the samples of leaders who spend time with Me getting My Words and receiving from Me? They are few and far between.
22. You who are closest to Me will be the leaders and commanders of the great multitudes of My children who will rise up with you against the Antichrist. They will stand with you and you will direct the forces.
23. Gentle shepherdess of the brokenhearted, never be ashamed of your tears for the sheep. For it is those tears, mingled with your prayers, that heal their wounds and bring new life and strength.
24. I've given you many strong leaders and bellwethers to follow, so keep your eyes on Me as I work through them. And though they may look weak, lacking in charisma, knowledge and experience, trust Me that they indeed are My anointed and the leaders I have chosen for these Last Days. For they are the ones that are desperate and know that they need My guidance and My power to make progress in the battle against the Enemy as he prepares his mighty onslaught against My children.
25. It's not a weakness that you can't think of what to tell people without seeking Me, but this is your greatest strength! For through this you allow Me to work and do My will as you constantly turn to Me for everything.
26. A shepherd's job is never done. A shepherd is always on call; he must always be there for the flock. This is also now the call of every Family member, for I call you all to be shepherds. Every one of you is a caretaker of another; you are to be your brother and sister's keeper, as well as keepers of My flock. I call you to care for one another, as I have cared for you. This is an enormous responsibility.

27. You don't always have to have the qualities of a leader--in the usual way you think of leaders--to lead others. All you have to have is conviction to stand up for what's right.
28. You shepherds must not be intimidated by people and their viewpoints or their protests.
29. There are times when the sheep bleat to warn the shepherd of impending doom, and if the shepherd does not take this warning and take heed, there is great loss. Therefore the sheep and the shepherds work together, for this is My plan.
30. (Dad speaking:) Are you going to answer the call of the high commission of the army of David? I have received the order! I have received the high commission to lead the troops in this final hour. This commission has been reserved for the army of David! We are the leaders! We have been commissioned. Are you with me?
31. (Dad speaking:) Swallow your pride, and be willing to accept shepherding when necessary, because it will only bear good fruit.
32. (Jesus Speaking:) I am calling each of you to a ministry of greater works, and you must each learn to lean on your connection with Me and on what I tell you. In this way, you will all grow into the role of prophets and leaders of My Endtime Church that you're destined for.
33. Your influence in the world will reach far, and the strength of this influence will increase as the years pass. You will grow in conviction and faith for astonishing miracles. You'll see wonders from My hands, and an increased anointing to be the shepherds of My flock.
34. The path of all true shepherds first begins by entering the gateway of brokenness. Only through this gateway will you have what it takes, what your Father David talked about in "Prayer for Love and Mercy," the kind of love and brokenness whereby you fall upon Me, your Rock, in humility and surrender, knowing you have not the love in yourself and are desperately in need of Me each step of the way.
35. The shepherding that I seek is for shepherds to lovingly help those that are battling to overcome the areas in their lives which they need to overcome. It's the shepherd's job to try to help people overcome their problems and to overcome the things they do that hurt others. It's the shepherd's role to help people to see that they should do the loving thing, the Godly thing, the kind thing. It's up to the shepherd to point out the areas in which people are falling short.

36. Is the leadership of the Family perfect, without fault, having never made a mistake? Of course not! They are like any other men or women, but they are My tools, My instruments, those that I have chosen.
37. What is a shepherd but a servant to the sheep--one who tenderly cares, who bandages up the broken legs, who cares for the animals. Even as a farmer who does tenderly serve his cattle and milk them, and brings them into green pastures and tends to them when they are sick, keeping their stalls clean and taking away the refuse, so do I ordain you as servants to your brothers and sisters. For did I not come as a servant? Therefore, if you would follow Me, if you would follow in My footsteps, you must also do likewise.
38. Counsel with your shepherds about your battles. Be honest with them about the things you're going through, and I will also speak through them as you counsel and pray together. Sometimes you can't see the forest for the trees, but as you speak with your shepherds who are not battling the same things as you are, who are removed from the situation, they can help you to see things in perspective and give you good insight and answers to your situation.
39. I have given you, My darlings, a very high calling--that of being My front-line soldiers, My elite troops, My cadre of officers, My leaders of the True Church in the Latter Days. This calling is given to very few, and even of those who it is given to, there are few who follow it, and even fewer who will follow through unto the End. This calling, to live and fight and die if need be for Me and My cause, is yours, and cannot be taken from you unless you give it up.
40. To be a wise leader you have to not just be open to counsel and help from your co-workers, but you have to actively seek it out and feel unsure and insecure without it.
41. Please avail yourself of the wise counsel of others--your shepherds or those who are strong in faith--by discussing and praying with them about the difficult and challenging situations that you face.
42. If you are to be a leader and shepherd in the era of action as I want you to be, then you must become a man of prayer. For through intercessory prayer you will take hold and avail yourself of the greatest action there is--the action in the spirit world performed by Me, the One Who holds the power of life and death in My hands.
43. I wish for all My children to be open and honest, and for all to feel like they can bare their hearts at any time to their shepherds. Even when some are found lacking in how they go about sharing what's on their hearts, even if what they share is not always delivered in a nice, neat, pretty package, nevertheless, it's better out than in.

44. This is always a danger with young leaders, young shepherds, young Christians--they have a tendency to try to do things in their own strength and to make a god of My service.
45. Learn to receive correction, guidance and counsel from one another. For if you expect to become the teachers and shepherds of the new flock that I am going to bring to you, then you must be humble enough to be shepherded yourself. You must not see it as interference by others, but as someone who loves you trying to help.
46. If you're not open to shepherding in a certain area of your life, that's a sure sign you really need it. The part of your life that you keep closed and private and "untouchable" is probably the area you need the most help in--help from Me and from others. There are some things in your life you just can't see clearly yourself. I sometimes even cause you to be blinded to certain problems so that you will be pushed to accept the help of others, not so that you can clam up and privatize your life even more.
47. (Dad speaking:) Remember, we don't just need laborers in the Family; we need labor leaders! We need people who can take initiative, go the extra mile, do the extra job, and work better and harder and sometimes longer than they're expected to. If you do what the Lord expects you to, there are no limits! If you exercise the spiritual weapons He's given you, there are no impossibilities. If you give your all for Jesus, He'll give His all for you, both now and a hundredfold hereafter, for eternity.
48. (Jesus Speaking:) My plan is that you as a whole, as the Family, will lead My sheep in the world through the Endtime. That's what you are destined for. If everyone in the Family was busy leading the Family, how would you lead the world? I need every single Family member to be a leader, and if I'm not calling you to help lead and shepherd other Family members at the moment, then it's because I'm asking you to feed My sheep in the world who are desperate and starving spiritually.
49. You must also prepare yourselves by becoming ready to shepherd others, for as you begin to feed My sheep, you will become shepherds. No matter who you are or what you're doing now, as My sheep come to your doors, you will be shepherds. You will need to teach and train them. You will need to answer their questions, be a good example, and give them counsel in their lives. Each of you, from the youngest to the oldest, will be called upon to participate. Are you ready for this? Some are; many aren't. Now's the time to get ready.
- First you must prepare on an individual basis, by making sure you are living My Words and upholding My standard. You must study My Word, both old and new, so that you know the principles of faith and truth. I'm calling you to be priests and ministers of My Word, My love, and My truth to those who seek to have Me play a more important role in their lives. You must prepare yourself in heart and spirit, and strengthen yourself in

the faith, so that you can be these priests, ministers, and teachers of the Gospel.

50. (Dad speaking:) If our busy shepherds and those in leadership are having a hard time stopping and getting enough quiet time with the Lord, maybe they need to lead the way and start a new trend in the Family! If they get everybody following suit and into the same groove, everyone will be doing it, and folks will be more sympathetic towards those who are having their "untouchable" time!
Get on the bandwagon and make it the fashion! Get on fire with a renewed Word revolution in your lives, and see others catch on! Make it the new "in thing!" Get on the bandwagon together! Declare Word time as sacred time! If the whole Home can't take it together while other work needs to continue on, or different ones have to follow different schedules for one reason or another--be respectful of those who are having their top-priority appointment with the Boss! Be mindful, be respectful, and make it easy for others to be good.
51. (Jesus Speaking:) The reason that you are here in the world is to be a witness and to reap the souls of those who are lost; to be as the good shepherd who left the ninety and nine and went out and sought that which was lost and brought them safely back into the fold, and there watched over the whole fold of one hundred. For he was not always gone, searching for the lost sheep, but his job as the shepherd was to watch the hundred and to care for them.
I send you forth as My shepherds to go and do likewise. When one is lost, go seek and search them out, and tell them of My Words and of My Truth and compel them to come into the Kingdom. But neglect not to care for those that are within the fold. For if you shall care for those that are within the fold, then they shall in turn go forth and bring many into My Kingdom; for they are your investment in the future.
52. And remember above all: Use the Word as your standard, not your own interpretations. The published Word is the authoritative source that measures what is godly and what is ungodly. The Word also gives counsel on letting people have freedom and trusting Me to work in their lives as I see fit and at My pace, as well as giving people leeway and room to be themselves. So if you follow the Word and apply it with a balanced implementation, you won't stray too far into compromise on the one hand, or into heavy-handedness on the other. But if you lean to your own understanding and judge others by your personal standard or sensibilities, you'll have nothing but trouble.
53. Any counsel that I give will be true for some, but in some cases would not be applicable or appropriate. I don't have to give across-the-board counsel that will fit every situation, because it is the day of the channels, the day of hearing from Me about everything. For the most part I will hit the broadest possible spectrum; but for those who are different, that is why I have given channels to My shepherds, parents, and caretakers worldwide.

People must learn, and have learned, that they need to personalize My counsel and adapt it to suit each need.

54. (Dad speaking:) I've suggested that the leaders and shepherds who are constantly pouring out to others--take a longer time of three hours twice a week, or half a day, besides their regular quiet time on other days, because they have an extremely arduous task of constantly hearing about problems, bearing burdens, pouring out and ministering. Their ministry and job requires them to constantly give and give and give. It's necessary that they spend this time in the Word because their spiritual inner selves are being depleted, and they don't even realize the devastating effect, the constant wear and tear on their spiritual bodies and their spiritual condition that this constant ministry has on them.
55. (Jesus Speaking:) Learning to have a broken heart but not a wounded spirit is the job of every shepherd. A broken heart brings compassion, understanding, strength to lift another's burdens, and vision to see the light at the end of the darkest tunnel. My shepherds all need broken hearts for the sheep. A wounded spirit sees only the pain, the apparent inability to overcome, the sorrow and loss. It is so focused on the mud that it no longer sees the stars. You have to help the wounded spirits to regain their focus on what is truly real, on Me, on the promise that I will never leave nor forsake and that nothing can ever separate them from My love for them.
56. The failure to correct one another on the part of teamworks shows a weakness of faith and/or humility. If you don't have enough love or humility to present what you see as wrong or a weakness on the part of your teammate, you are sinning against that person. Remember, you are your brother's keeper. You are to watch for his soul. That means you are held accountable for him if he is straying, or being a bad sample, or stumbling others. To not have the faith to point it out to him is doing him a great disservice, and his blood will be on your hands.
57. Being the Good Shepherd that I am, I have taken you, My little lamb, and I have broken your leg. It was not harsh nor severe, but I broke it in just the right spot to get your attention, to cause you to look to Me, to need Me, to desire Me, to feel your weakness and necessity. The fruits of this breaking of your leg and instruction are bearing good fruit, My little lamb. Now you're coming to Me and feeling the need for Me. I'm putting within your heart more of a longing, in answer to the cries and pleas of your heart, for you know that you need it and you can't be happy without it. You need it for the inspiration of your day, for the ability to get through your work. So isn't that a wonderful benefit?
58. I give parents and shepherds certain responsibilities--the responsibility to care for their flock. If they do so lovingly, I reward them accordingly, and My flock is strengthened. If

they do not care for the flock wisely, then the flock is weakened, and the shepherds must give account of this. Yet this is between Me and them. The sheep who decide to leave the fold cannot blame the shepherds, since they know what is right and true, even if they do not see that same in others.

59. I have given each Family individual different gifts of personal expression. Part of the beauty of the Family is that so many individuals can live together in unity of beliefs and goals and purpose, yet maintain and respect each other's individuality. That's not an easy balance to maintain without a great deal of love, wisdom, and understanding, and I'm proud of those who are growing in these ways. However, although I love wild freedom and the many and varied ways that people express themselves, I also know that no man is an island and everyone affects others in some way--for good or for bad. That's why counsel is good. That's why shepherding is necessary--not to contain or control, but to be a sounding board and a source of godly counsel.
60. (Dad speaking:) As a good shepherd, I always made it my job to stick my nose into people's business. That oughtta be the job of every good shepherd, to go around checking up on the sheep, checking on the flocks, and making sure everything is A-okay! I always made it a point to do that from the very beginning--even in the seemingly small things. As far back as when we were on the road in our early days, I'd walk around the camp at night checking on all the vehicles and the trailers, making sure everybody was warm and comfortable, had enough blankets or enough ventilation if they had those heaters on. That's the job of a good shepherd, to always be checking up on the sheep, and I'm still at it! Only now I can keep a closer watch on you than ever before.
61. (Jesus Speaking:) For I have among you some who are prophets, some who are teachers, some who tend tables, some who are shepherds, and all of these I lead in love. And some of those who are prophets are not teachers or shepherds, just as some who are among you are teachers, but are not prophets. But all are Mine, and none is above another, for I look on the heart, and if the heart contains love and joy and compassion, then this is the greatest gift. Do not compare among yourselves the gifts that I have given. Love is the greatest thing. For when you stand before Me, it is not the gifts that I shall be looking at, it is how much love and kindness you have shown to others, how much of Me you have given to others. Do not look at these gifts as something you absolutely have to obtain to be closer to Me. ... Above all, strive to give Me to others. This is the greatest gift, the gift of love.
62. I want and expect every young person in the Family to view leadership and shepherding as part of their commission and calling in the Family. From the very beginning your Father David harped on this topic. Though many of you

take his letter "So You Want to Be a Leader?" as an excuse to shirk this calling, I inspired him to write that to impress upon you that leadership is a tough and high calling, and though you may not want to be a leader, I want you to be a leader. And, whether you like it or not, as a disciple in the Army of David, one day you will be a leader and shepherd--if you are willing to go all the way for Me.

63. You are all shepherds, you are all teachers, and you all have great wealth of the truth and wisdom of My Word in your hearts. There is much for each one of you to do! For if you look around you there are many hungry sheep that long to be fed from your hands. There are many desperate ones that would come unto you and say, 'Feed me of the truth of God! Feed me of the Words of David. Teach me the life of faith. Teach me how to raise my children. Teach me how to pray and hear from the Lord. Teach me how to witness. Teach me how to provision.' There are many that would come to you and seek that which you know, and draw from the wisdom that is within your heart.
64. If you fail in this one area (taking time with the Lord), you are failing in many areas. I want you to see how much responsibility and accountability rests on this one point. I want you to see how important I consider this one aspect of your life. Above all, I require that you take the time with Me that is necessary, I require that you learn to operate more in the spirit, if you are to be one of My leaders.
65. The Spirit calls out to you! She bids you come into Her warm and loving arms. Only there will your heart be truly healed and your spirit set free to become all that I've ordained you to become. Can you not hear Her calling you? Can you not see Her in the eyes of your brothers and sisters? Their spirits and eyes look expectantly to you, desiring to see one raised up from among them--one who has been bruised and broken, yet who is then raised from the ashes of tears and defeat to become a broken, humble, new vessel; a vessel that lives only to do His Master's bidding, that bears clearly the imprint of the Master's face upon its own shattered surface.
Are you willing to bear My imprint? Are you willing to take your place among My greats, My broken ones, in order to lead others? Are you willing to pour forth from your broken and beaten vessel love without measure, love without reservation, love without fear or hesitation, love that thinks not of itself or what it has to gain or lose, but the kind of love that only lives for others?
66. Your planet has been especially chosen by Me to be the training ground for leaders of the future--leaders for not only this planet, but for all the galaxies and the entire universe.
You are the ones in whom I have invested the most in physical gifts and talents, skills and abilities, as well as in the way of knowledge and understanding of Me and My Words and the deep things of life and of the spirit.
You do not need to be the most technologically advanced race to be leaders in the

universe. Indeed, the ways I would have you lead have nothing to do with technology. Rather I am strengthening My called-out ones in the weapons and strengths of My Spirit.

67. David's (Dad's) humility and honesty to admit his faults is one of the things that made him into the leader and the great man of God that he was. He wasn't afraid to share his blunders, his human frailties, or even his human errors that sometimes clouded the message or correction I wanted to give to the Family or to an individual. But David was humble enough to admit those faults and show that he was just as human as everyone else--he wasn't perfect.
- Many people lack that same quality of honest humility, the willingness to admit that sometimes they get in the way of what I'm trying to say, that their humanness sometimes obstructs and hinders the correct presentation. That's a good question to ask yourself as well: Do you have the honest humility to admit to others when you've erred or not been in line with My Spirit?
68. This is the lesson that I wish for you to teach these shepherds and these young ones that will be there looking to you, looking to your sample, looking to the way you handle things in the Spirit, the way you get your signals from Me. They need to see that you don't do things just on a whim or even because you like to do certain things, but that you seek My face and seriously call out to Me to help you to be an ensample to My flock, just as I said that you should be in the Word.
- This will then make each of them have to seek Me and ask Me what My will is for them. I will surely tell them, and they will listen and they will follow. This will be a good lesson to many--a lesson of faith, a lesson of trust, a lesson on yieldedness and obedience and submission. For My principles revolve on little things. I am proud of you for asking. I am proud of you for not wanting to do even the littlest things without My counsel, without My advice, without My wisdom.
69. (Dad speaking:) You should treasure every opportunity to be able to share your hearts openly and honestly with your shepherds, and not mind sharing your weaknesses or problems with the Home, if necessary, so you can get more prayer and more help in the spirit. That way you'll continue to grow and make progress; you'll be a good sample and testimony to others; others will understand you better, and it'll ensure that you can do an even better job for Jesus.
70. (Jesus Speaking:) I'm asking you to become teachers, pastors, and shepherds--no longer the roving pioneers, but now stable pioneers, building a work, building a following, building a church of believers who will work with you and be part of you, new members of My Endtime army and Family. This will require dedication and stick-to-itiveness. It will require laying down your lives in new ways

71. As with any flock, the shepherd must cull out those that are weak. Then those that are strong, he uses to reproduce, to create more strong sheep. That's how a shepherd comes to have a strong flock. He doesn't keep the weak and the sickly. He doesn't breed them, but rather culls them out so that his flock reproduces only from good stock. And so am I going to do with you, for I am the Good Shepherd.
72. My Word is above all your source of spiritual life and sustenance. It is what keeps your spirit connected to Mine and keeps you attached to the spiritual realm. It is the root and source and heart of every aspect of your spiritual life. It is also a source of guidance in the practical realm, because it gives you answers, solutions, and direction--for your personal life, as well as for your shepherding of others.
It is important in any case to have an open heart and mind as you soak in My Word, not only toward being personally or generally fed and strengthened spiritually, but even to find and mine the jewels within My Word that will bring you specific and very practical and workable solutions to problems in your personal life, your work, or your shepherding. You've heard it said before that the answer to everything is in My Word, and how true that is.
73. The job of a shepherd is slow, plodding work and can sometimes border on being routine, monotonous, and perhaps even boring, if it weren't for My Spirit and My anointing.
So what do you do in such a situation? What do My real-life shepherds out in the fields with their sheep do? What about farmers who have to plod along day by day, faithfully doing their jobs and tending to their crops and animals? What do they do? In many cases they just have to endure. They just have to learn greater patience. They just learn greater desperation with Me, and they just keep going by the grace of God.
74. A key to taking this new step in your spiritual life is being open to shepherding, open to the checks of others. If you're truly after spiritual strength, strength that is from Me and My Word, then you'll realize that you not only need input from Me on how to go about it, but you also need the input of others. They can help you if you're getting off track. They can check you if something isn't right in your spirit.
75. A policy that you should take as your own is one that I personally practiced when I said, "I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his Lord doeth: but I have called you friends" (John 15:15). If you become more communicative, friendlier, and more approachable, you will be more like Me. While I needed time alone with My Father, My disciples knew they could seek out My assistance, counsel, support and prayer as often as they needed it. I was Shepherd and Friend, Savior and Brother.
76. I want to work with you, like a teacher with his students, to help you find the answers that you need. The best teachers don't just give the students the answers straight off,

having them memorize them in rote fashion; they teach the students how to get the answers that they need, how to think, how to research. Of course, the answers ultimately come from Me in either case, whether I give them to you straight out or you research and find the answers in your "school books," as in this case I'm both the teacher and the writer of the textbooks. But the process of searching and finding is good for you and teaches you many things that help you to be better students of Me and My ways, and that teach you to be better leaders. This is important not only now but is also good training for your jobs in the next world, in the Millennium and beyond.

77. You are destined to be leaders, those who will teach, instruct, and shelter many. What will give faith to those you are leading?--When they see you facing the ferocity of battle and suffering the wounds of war, even falling to your knees in exhaustion at times, yet you won't stop, you won't give up. Seeing you struggle back to your feet, again and again, till the battle is won, is a greater testimony than anything else you could do or any witness you could give.

It's a fallacy that a leader should appear unscathed by the battle. It's a lie of Satan that good leaders don't make mistakes, don't falter and struggle, don't suffer through the same desperation and frustrations that their followers face.

I'm the standard of the leader. If you want to be a good leader, follow My example. I was tempted in all points, as you are (Heb.4:15). I suffered agony, pain, desperation, and moments of doubt and hopelessness.

Do you think the battles that I faced in My last hours were easy? Can you imagine the intensity of a struggle that would cause you to sweat drops of blood, as I did in the Garden of Gethsemane? Can you imagine the agony that would cause Me to cry out to the Father as I did on the cross, "Why have You forsaken Me?" (Luke 22:44; Mat.27:46). That's what makes a true leader: clinging to Me and fighting on, no matter what.

78. The one who refuses to listen to their brothers and their sisters, to their elders and their leaders, puts themselves in My hands alone. And as I have said, I do and will shepherd them. But he who will not be shepherded by Me through others must be shepherded by Me directly. They must face those things that I bring across their path to shepherd them, to teach them--experiences, afflictions, heartaches, hard sayings. For they choose not to listen to the counsel of the Godly, and thus must be shepherded through raw experience at My hands.

79. Learning to be completely open and honest with your shepherds is a step towards greater humility and meekness. When you're constantly confessing that you need help and prayer and counsel, this is humbling and this kills your pride, but it's so good for you. Confessing your faults lowers your self-esteem in your own eyes, but it exalts you in My eyes and brings down My blessings. Your shepherds are also proud of you when you take these steps of humility and openness.

80. When there are big problems, don't be too proud to ask for the help of your Home shepherds. Don't be so proud that you try to work it all out on your own, because sometimes it is helpful to have a mediator, a third party, who can help your communications/negotiations to go more smoothly.
At the same time, don't be dependent on your Home shepherds to do all of the problem-solving work for you. There's a balance to be had, and you need to learn to pray about problems and work them out as well, without always expecting your shepherds to walk you through them.
81. It's so much easier to look to the work and to the job that I've given you and say, "Let's move forward with the work and let's not have to bear the burden of others' problems, especially serious ones." I don't blame you or fault you for that, because you do have a ministry that ministers to the "all," and you can't always leave the "all" to go after the one. I know and understand this, because your ministry at your level is to minister to the "all," to the ninety-and-nine. But from time to time I have to ask you - not just you as the shepherds, but you as the body - to be willing to go after the one. Some of these have been long term, but they have proven fruitful, even though it has required work and love and patience and stamina. And now I ask you collectively if you will put your will on My side and on her side in this matter, so that all three bodies - I, you, and she - are moving and working together to free her from this bondage.
From time to time it is necessary to focus on the one, to leave the ninety-and-nine to seek out the lost one - and this is one of those cases. I know it's not easy, but I say that in the long run it is worth it to save the life of this one.
82. If you're going to succeed as a revolution, it's imperative that you are open to the new and even the crazy. Your Father David was often a great example of this. While he also had his share of old mindsets, in comparison to the rest of the Family he was the most "out of the box" thinker ever. He was rarely afraid to share an idea, even if it seemed a little ridiculous to him or to others. Sometimes the idea worked perfectly, other times it didn't, and other times it was the springboard for a great change for the better.
I want you to be in tune with Me during your discussions. I want you to specifically ask Me to be there with you, leading and guiding your thoughts and words. I also want you to use that brain I gave you to come up with ideas. Sure, I could give it all to you in prophecy, but it's also healthy, both spiritually and emotionally, for you to come up with ideas, discuss them together, and develop workable solutions which can later be brought to Me and confirmed in prophecy. This method will help you to grow in maturity and make you more effective leaders and disciples.
83. I love sheep! What a motif they are! Sheep are often depicted in artwork, from beautiful pictures of a herd of sheep in a pastoral setting, to those in comic art style that make for a good chuckle! You can find the wise old ram depicted or the motherly ewe with her adorable lambs.

Look at the cuddly toys of sheep. Don't they touch a child's heart and often become a favorite? Many people have enjoyed a good laugh at some of the movies made with sheep as the characters. There is the wisdom-filled story about the wolf in sheep's clothing. Indeed, sheep are a lovely creation I take much pleasure in. How useful they are!

Not all of the depictions of these creatures will show the nearby shepherd, but if you come across a real-life herd of sheep on your travels, they won't be without a shepherd. He'll be there, most often leaning on his staff or sitting on a little hill close by. He's there watching over his flock unobtrusively, but if danger lurks, he knows it and is right there to clobber an intruder if necessary.

I have a point in this declaration of My love for these darling animals. They have a quiet assurance--or some call it instinct--that someone is there to care for them.

Translated into the realm of My people, there is a quiet motivation deep in your heart to seek out that "someone" who is there when you need them. You need Me, but you also need someone "with skin on," someone in your realm who you can confide in if necessary, someone you can share worries or trepidations with, someone you can count on to give you wise counsel.

84. As you, My children of David, grow and mature and become the shepherds I need you to be, you will learn to be more like your king and queen, and look ahead, and get ahold of Me for direction. You need to learn how to look beyond the immediate needs of today, to plan and prepare and be strengthened for the future.

As you grow into the mentality of looking outward, reaching forward, and seeking to progress, asking Me about the future and how to best prepare and attack, what to put your efforts and energies into now in order to be prepared for where I'm taking you and what battles you'll face, huge leaps of forward progress will be made!

Learning and applying this principle of looking ahead and asking Me to forewarn you and help you to be prepared and preempt the Enemy's attacks, will tremendously strengthen you as a body and help to turn the tide of the war, putting you in charge, in front, and sending the Enemy reeling away in fear to regroup, re-plan, and recover from the ferocious assaults he will be receiving on all fronts.

85. (Dad speaking:) Shepherds, if you're not willing to gently and lovingly correct your Home members when they go astray, then sooner or later others will follow them. You'll lose your flock after a while, or you yourself will go astray, following them, because you weren't willing to forsake your pride and do the hard but loving job of shepherding. Remember, it's a loving job as well. "Whom the Lord loveth, He chasteneth." Whom the Lord loves, He shepherds. If you love your Home members, you'll shepherd them. If you love the Lord and want the best for His work, you'll shepherd them.

And dear Home members, if you're not willing to overcome your pride and sensitivity and be shepherded, then you'll only go further and further astray. Just as your shepherds need to have a change of heart, a change of mind, and a change of attitude

to be willing to take up the gentle and loving staff of shepherding again, you need to be willing to accept that shepherding.

Don't look on it as some terrible, horrible, evil thing that you're being shepherded, that you're being asked why you're doing this, or if some decision is the best course of action, or if you'd considered this or that in the Word, or if you've heard from the Lord about a decision you're making. If you love the Lord and want to do your best for Him and be your best for the Family, look upon it as instruction in the way of righteousness. Look upon it as godly counsel and help. Look upon it as good, not bad. Look upon it as a blessing, not a terrible thing to be dreaded and avoided.

86. (Jesus Speaking:) Being your brother's keeper is all about love. It's about loving enough to care. So when a fellow Home member or loved one is going through a rough time and it's obvious they're not excelling in their obedience to the Word, you should love enough to care.

Caring doesn't always mean correcting the person or even talking to them about what you've noticed. Often that's best left up to the Home shepherds. But being your brother's keeper means doing whatever I show you to do in a situation to bring about change, whether it's notifying your shepherds that someone is going through a rough patch so that they're aware of it, or praying for that person, that I will help them to put on their fighting gear once again and get back in the arena to fight for progress.

87. (Dad speaking:) Well, I'll say this to you shepherds--you'd better be good shepherds! You'd better watch for your flock and take care of them! What do you do with information that someone shares with you in confidence? Do you close it away in your heart, and pray for that person, and treat it with the utmost care and respect? Or do you talk about it unwisely or unprayerfully with those who don't need to know, gabbing about it in an unloving way with the uninvolved?

Brethren, such things ought not to be! If I were there, I'd give a tongue-lashing to anyone who did that! I mean it! Just think if it were to happen to you! If you told your innermost secrets to someone and they turned around and spilled the beans to the next person they saw, you'd feel betrayed! You'd feel terrible! You'd feel like never opening your heart again.

And I want you to remember this: When people come to talk with you, they're giving you one of the most precious things they have--their heart. They're laying out their heart and they're asking you to take care of it. They're trusting that you will take care of it--that you will not bruise it or hurt it, but that you will handle it with care and with love.

So the worst thing you can do is to then talk unprayerfully about what they said to you. Please, really pray about what you share with others when someone has confided in you. Pray about what you must tell your teamworkers or pass on to others. Realize that this is a very special gift that someone has given you--the gift of their trust and their

confidence--and you need to respect that. Above all, don't share these confidential things with people who don't need to know. Okay? I love you!

88. (Jesus Speaking:) I'm calling each of My children of David to be a shepherd to some - degree. I've made that clear in the call and direction I've put forth--both with the *Activated* vision and expanding your sheepfolds, your membership, as well as throughout your history. I've long been preparing you for the day when you will be the leaders of My Endtime children, teaching and instructing many. Those days are now fast approaching, and it's time for every Family member to realize the responsibility that will soon be upon them.

Up until this time it has seemed afar off to many. Those days have seemed distant, especially when they have looked around at the meager responsibilities they carried in the flesh, compared to some others. But with the era of action will come much change in the way you see yourselves as a Family. You will no longer be communities of followers, with one or two or three obvious leaders or shepherds. Each of you will be called upon to shepherd, to step forth, to claim your responsibility as one of My leaders who has been prepared for years for this ministry and calling. You will be called upon to give from the storehouses that I have blessed you with. You will be called to be examples, both in your public lives and in your private lives.

These lessons, in essence, are for each Family member. For each Family member is called, or will soon be called, to take up the torch and responsibility of leadership.

89. (Jesus Speaking:) Having added responsibilities can work two ways, depending on how you go about it. If you go about it the right way, taking on more responsibility in the spirit rather than in the flesh, it can help to stretch you and grow you up. The added responsibilities can help to make you more effective and more efficient, by causing you to draw closer to Me and making you more dependent on Me. However, if you don't go about it the right way, if you try to work harder in the flesh and handle things in your own strength, you'll not grow in spirit; you'll actually wither spiritually. Your faith will shrink and you'll wear yourself out and hinder your usefulness to Me.

90. At a time like this, the temptation is to just go go go! After all, there's so little time and so much to do. But remember that the busier things get, the more important it is to spend time with Me. In your situation, that doesn't always mean that you need to take more hours of Word time or more P&P time than normal--although I might occasionally ask that of you. It means that your focus should be more on Me as you go about your work, making sure that your priorities are right, your goals are defined as I want them defined, and your schedule is in sync with Mine. It doesn't take more time to do this; it just takes more heavenly thought power, more full possession, more calling on the keys, more focusing on the power of My Spirit rather than your own strength and power.

91. (Dad speaking:) Noah couldn't have run the Ark and his crew of helpers if he hadn't

been pretty humble and yielded. Now Noah knew things some of them didn't know, because he had heard straight from God about the whole project. He had a direct hotline to Heaven and personally received instructions, personally had a very good handle on things, knew what was right and how to go about it. God talked to him daily and told him what to do and how to do it. Have you ever wondered how Noah got his family to follow God's instructions, how he ever managed to enlist their help to build the Ark and get the animals in? It was a pretty insane-looking project and plenty of people were scoffing, so how did he get his kin to agree and work together with him? His family had questions, disagreements about the project, different opinions. They had a lot to talk about and hash out, and they weren't all meek and mild personalities. Believe me, one of his sons was pretty strong-willed about what he thought should be done and how to go about things. Another of his sons was the meek type that didn't like confrontations, and when anything got a little too difficult to handle, he'd withdraw. Even if he disagreed with the direction things were going, if he felt his opinion wasn't being received, he'd pull out of the conversation and look to Noah for help. There has to be a people handler. There has to be someone who can see the whole picture, who isn't set on one way of thinking, who can put their personal opinions aside in order to see the situation clearly and make a wise decision. I asked Noah how he did it, and he said, "No one's perfect, and in order to work with imperfect people, you have to give them room to operate according to their faith." You have to give, even when you don't think it's right. You sometimes have to allow things even when you think they're a little off track. You have to agree, even if you think you have a better way. You just have to bend to other people's ways of doing things sometimes, their way of seeing things, even their preferences; otherwise you isolate yourself from the talents and anointing of others.

If the situation is such that people are usually giving in to your preferences, the way you want things done, then eventually people will feel they can't count on you to be open-minded. They'll hesitate to counsel. They won't seek out your counsel or look forward to your counsel if they feel your norm of operation is to control each situation to your way of thinking. Noah's family had to feel his support in the spirit, his encouragement toward their communications, his openness of mind to their questions or ideas in order to get the job done and to do it in harmony and unity.

92. (Jesus Speaking:) Delegating is another secret to success. It's manifesting faith in My plan and in others, and it keeps your self-righteousness in check so you won't be as tempted to try to do it all yourself, and thus overextend yourself. You can't do it all. You must learn to trust that I am in control and that it's My work and I will do it. The answer here is simple: You need to come to Me in prayer and ask Me. Ask Me if you should be doing this, or if you should delegate it to others, and I'll show you what to do. If I tell you to delegate it to others, then you can give them some advice and instruction, but then pray and commit it to Me and trust that they'll take care of it. They may not do it exactly the way you would do it, as each person has a different style; but if they're prayerful,

then I will anoint them to do it and it will be taken care of.

93. At times it's hard for My brides to trust Me for all that there is to do. In their great love for Me, they often try too hard in their own strength to do the work of the spirit. For the most part their motives are pure, as they sincerely desire to be a blessing and to tend diligently to the affairs of the Kingdom. They want to do a good job for Me. They want to take care of the sheep and the many details that come across their plate. The one thing that they must realize is that except the Lord build the city, they that build it do so in vain. It's better to do a little with My Spirit than much in the arm of the flesh; it's quality and not quantity. These precious ones must realize that their time with Me in the Word and the bed of love is as important as their physical rest and eating to strengthen their bodies. Just as you need to have the right amount of food and rest in the physical, so do you in the spiritual. In order to do their best for Me, they must take the time that they need with Me. So much depends on these precious ones, and I need them to be in tune with Me and abiding in My Spirit. Shepherds need to be the well-oiled gears of the intricate machinery of My Family of the Endtime. They need to be as the jewels upon which the movements of the clock hinge. They need to be in place and well-oiled and honed in the proper fashion to fit their place of service, so that the other parts of the mechanism can move freely and with a minimum of friction.
94. I put My earthly shepherds in strategic places, and I anoint them for their tasks, and from them you have received for many years. But know that there is a time and a purpose to everything under Heaven. This is the season when I would that many of you receive this direct shepherding from My hand, for this will be imperative in the days ahead. I long to be your mediator. I long to answer every question, to solve every problem, to soothe every trouble, worry, or heartache. Fear not that this is not enough, for I say unto you, as you walk on in faith, as you grow and reach out to Me, you will soon discover that My love, My shepherding, is more than enough. To everything there is a season, and as you look to Me, I will bring My earthly shepherds around in due time, in due season. Know that you will have both--a time of direct shepherding from My hand, and a time of counsel and love and shepherding from the hand of My appointed ones on Earth.
95. (Dad speaking:) There's a need in the Family for leaders. There's a need in the Family for people who are willing not only to be leaders, but to endure the refining and the breaking that comes with the job--the humbling, the humiliation, the giving of yourself and the daily sacrifices for the sake of others. You have to forsake all. You have to be willing to put in long hours behind the scenes, both in prayer and desperation with the Lord for the answers, and then in counsel with your teamworkers at whatever level or rank you are. Then there are the painstaking hours of trying to implement the solution--the talking with people, the work involved,

the following through, the going back to the Lord to iron out the kinks and get further direction, and it just keeps going. Before you're finished with one situation or problem, there are ten more waiting at your door to be solved! And, after all that, no one will probably even know you gave it a second thought until Heaven. It's a thankless job, and a difficult one.

Then there's being willing to be what the Lord wants you to be. If you're not a good speaker, well, you'll probably have to talk to people sometimes anyway, and let the Lord use you however He sees fit. If you're not a good people-handler, the Lord is going to work on that area of your life to make you more loving. You're going to face no end of situations to keep you desperate, humble, and very close to the Lord. You know why? Because the Lord needs you! He needs you as His representative.

96. (Jesus Speaking:) I lead each one down the path of My will, and along this path are pleasures which I have put there for their enjoyment, their recreation. Also along the path are distractions which prevent them from moving forward along the path of My will. It's part of My will for each to stop and enjoy the pleasures which I've put there, but it's not My will for them to be distracted.

The distractions are steps in reverse rather than steps forward, but these distractions are different for each individual. If they have trouble or difficulty deciphering whether it's a pleasure or a distraction, they should ask Me, and also counsel with their shepherds, so that they might have conviction, faith and peace, knowing that what they're doing is according to My will and done in counsel with their shepherds. In the multitude of counselors there is safety and My will is established.

97. My loves, let Me also remind you of one other very important thing you can and should do to be cleansed, and that is to ask for prayer from your shepherds, and be open to counseling. Often when you've been muddied spiritually, your perspective isn't as clear, and it really helps to not only let Me speak to you, but also to talk about it with those who are strong and can help remind you of things which are true, and help bring things back into perspective.

So don't be too proud to take advantage of this support system I've provided for you. Ask for prayer from those who are strong in Me. Don't simply default to your friends. Go to those who are strong in My Word, and who can help you be strengthened too. Don't be afraid to show them that you've gotten dirty, because they can help you to get washed up and cleansed. Maybe they'll have some ideas of things you can read from My Word, or at least they can pray with you and for you, and that spiritual reinforcement will make your cleansing and strengthening process quicker and easier.

98. (Dad speaking:) You have to take it from the point of view that it's the Lord Who's working in a person's life. If they have bitterness and hurts that need to be opened up and talked about, then the procedure of letting all this come out is much like a surgeon's gentle, tender, delicate removal of a cancerous tumor. It hurts, and there's a

recuperation period, but sometimes the "operation" of getting it out is the only way that the person will get the victory. If the tumor is removed, then the wound, treated with love and prayer and understanding and Word and faith, will heal and it will be gone.

But sometimes the hurt is deep and festered and infected, and in that case, removing it is much more painful, more difficult, and can hurt more. It can take longer to heal, and it can be a torturous process. But the Lord has the healing, the solution, the victory. So removing these deeper hurts that people are afraid to talk about takes very, very gentle care and lots of patience. But by applying the Word, prayer, faith, prophecy, nurturing, and care, there can be great victories won over things that people have never even talked about.

Remember, prayer can do wonderful things in these situations. When someone brings something up that seems so difficult, so ouchy and hurtful that you just cringe to hear about it, one thing that you can always do for them is pray with them. That's a wonderful response, and it will work wonders. It will make the person feel that they've been considered and not blown off or rejected. It will set the Lord to work cleaning up the problem, and it will give peace to the heart of the one you prayed for.

Bringing up past hurts which people are reticent about or reluctant to discuss is like opening a can of worms, you may feel. But the Lord has the victory, and He has healing, and He has good spiritual health for those who have been holding these things in. It simply has to be treated, handled, addressed, and prayed for. The Lord likes to do this type of healing. He's a specialist at it, in fact, and has healed many people of deep hurts. So it's very good to encourage people to be open and honest--about the past, about things that worry them or irritate them or plague them--and then to trust the Lord for His healing of them.

99. (Jesus Speaking:) He who has no control over his spirit is like a city that is broken down and without walls. There are numerous references in My Word to those who are foolish and lack wisdom, those who get upset easily or say things they shouldn't. As My children and My representatives on Earth, it's vital that you control your spirits and keep them in check. This includes restraining yourselves from raising your voice and getting upset, shouting, arguing in an angry spirit, yelling at others, being harsh and stern in your communications. I am pictured as a dove--a soft, cooing dove that lands where it is wanted and is easily shooed away. I am not like the wolf who howls and destroys, but like the gentle lamb. I want you to be more like Me and take on the attributes that I am known by. There is no reason to shout or yell at others. Raising your voice does nothing but put the person you're shouting and yelling at on the defensive. It's demeaning and degrading to have someone shout at you. Pray for a meek and quiet spirit, one that I will not despise. Pray for wisdom and tact, love and patience. Pray against the spirit of haste, of being too rough and harsh in your speech and actions, against rushed judgment, verbal anger and abuse, and especially

against violence of any sort. I am a Man of Peace and I came to portray that spirit in all that I did and said. Take on My attributes as you claim the power of the keys. They will transform you into loving conversationalists, good disciplinarians, and tactful messengers of My truth.

100. I'm sorry to say that because of System attitudes and mindsets and the human nature of putting people on a pedestal, you, My children, have created a hierarchy mentality within the Family that is not of Me and not according to My Word. This position-oriented mentality has been in play for years now, ever since "the Chain" days. "The Chain" is created when you look to the person and compare the talents that I have gifted them with, with yourself. In this way you create a difference between yourself and others that I have not made. Exalting that person and their responsibility is the recipe for failure for both yourself and the one you're holding up and comparing with. Remember, it's the faithful, not just the talented, that I will greet with a "well done" when they enter into the joy of My Kingdom. It's the faithful whom I will make rulers over many in that day.

101. Where are the shepherds? Where are the shepherds among you? Am I not trying to raise you up to be shepherds? Am I not trying to bring out the need for you to stand strong? Am I not trying to train you to become shepherds? Do I not put you in positions where you must stand up for your convictions? And when you are in these situations, what do you do? Do you become shepherds, or do you remain dumb sheep? When you see the wolves coming to devour the weak and the weary, do you sit by and eat grass and pay no attention?--Or do you rise up and fight against the devourers? I am trying to make all of you shepherds. I am trying to raise you up in strength and power! I have given you the opportunity, I have given you the power to stand up, through My Words, through the Words of David, and I have made it very clear and easy to understand through the words of the Charter. You know what is true and right. You know what is the standard for all, as I have made this clear. I have made it so that if you see one that is being hurt or that is hurting, you have the right and the responsibility to speak up and to protect the weak. But no, you say, "The shepherds must do it. We will wait until the shepherds take care of it." But I say to you, you are the shepherds--you who are there, you who know it's wrong. Look not off in the distance and say, "Oh, when the shepherds come, they will take care of it." For I say to you, you are the shepherds, each one of you, for you have My Word, you know My standard. I have made it clear. I have given a clear sound of the trumpet. I have put it down for all to see and all to know and for all to enact. When you see the Evil One come slashing and ripping and devouring, if you stand not up to fight against him to save your brother and to save your sister and to save the flock, then it is you who are at fault.

102. One can chase a thousand, but two can put ten thousand to flight! In unity there is great strength and in wise counsel there is safety. When you do not seek counsel, I am not able to bless you as fully as I would like, and you who would try to manage on your own will be found lacking in strength, power and direction. You will miss out on the extra boost I will give through sweet counsel together with a shepherd, a parent, a friend--one of understanding who is able to give helpful counsel. Through wise counsel, I give strength. In the multitude of counsel I establish purposes. I am able to define goals and lead you to bear good results, good fruit in your relationships. I am able to clear away any rubble or confusion, and give sound wisdom. By seeking counsel, you are able to be instructed, and when you do this, you become wise. When there is no counsel you are apt to make mistakes and fall, but as you seek counsel, you guard against mistakes, for in wise counsel there is safety. If you will hear instruction, you will become wise. For I did not make man to live alone, but to need each other, to counsel together, because in this unity there is strength. This is the law of My Spirit, that in the multitude of counsel there is safety, strength and sound wisdom, and purposes are established.

103. (Dad speaking:) God bless you, son! I love you! You've been a tremendous blessing and a help to the folks there. I mean, you've shepherded them for years! You've put up with their shenanigans and you've helped them time and time again. You've had faith for them; you've had love for them. Oh sure, you've been frustrated a few times and thrown up your hands in despair, but you didn't give up or quit. You just had faith, you kept plugging along, and the Lord did it. He rewarded your faith and your patience and your love for the sheep. I can sure understand some of your trials and difficulties and feeling a little what they call "burned out." I felt that way too sometimes. I got a little bored with my surroundings. In fact, I often did. I loved change. I loved to see new territory, new scenes, new vistas, and often the Lord would give that to me. But other times He wouldn't, because I had a job to do. He just made me stay put and do what I was supposed to do, because He knew the Family needed it and it was going to help them and bear fruit. So don't lose sight of the goal! The Lord has you there for a special purpose, because He knows He can use you to help these folks through their trials and battles. And though it may seem wearisome at times, just hold on and the Lord is going to pull you through. These seasons in our life just come around every once in a while, and we simply have to weather them, so to speak. So hold on to that crown! Do the best you can, share your heart, get prayer if you need prayer, and take those breaks when you need them. Trust the Lord that He's going to bring you through, and that things won't always be like this. I love you and I'm praying for you. God bless you!

104. (Jesus Speaking:) The Spirit must reign supreme, for My children are children of the Spirit, first and foremost. The flow of My Spirit and the flow of My Word pours forth from Heaven to the top, and then is poured out amongst all. There must be a structure to ensure that the Spirit and the Word is implemented in the lives of My children. You will never get away from the need for spiritual shepherds, for those who will lead the sheep, who will comfort and care for them. If you were to set this aside, then you'd lose the purity in the Spirit and the strength that comes from abiding in My Word, and you would only have a business or a company. So you must set up within your mechanism, within this building, within this structure, the spiritual shepherding of the Family. If the spirit is right, the work will be right.

105. Shepherds, don't hesitate to bring up your concerns if you feel a prophecy is incomplete or needs more prayer or balance. You're shirking your responsibility if you simply look the other way and say, "Oh well, I guess there's nothing we can do about it. He's already heard from the Lord." I've made it clear time and time again that I expect you to come back to Me if you have reservations or questions. And this counsel is not just for shepherds, but for all concerned Home members. I call you to be your brother's keepers and to share your feelings in love and humility if you see something that needs further prayer or if you receive a check from Me. Humility is the key if you want to use the gift of prophecy wisely and happily. Both those who receive the prophecies as well as those who judge and help to interpret the prophecies must be humble. And the greatest manifestation of humility in this situation is to want My will above anything else, and to be willing to let go of your own plans and aspirations in order to find what I know to be best.

106. You have learned to love and serve and to give in your serving, but your serving will now need to be more filled with love. Ponder what I have told of Martha, who did not recognize that the Spirit had visited her enough to stop and to look and to listen, to stop from striving and working and being recognized in works, and learn to simply sit at My feet and get refilled and empowered. For in this resting upon Me and stopping and tanking up and refilling, you will have love that you know not of. Have I not given you the example of the Samaritan on the road to Jericho? There are many such occasions even in your everyday life where I want you to stop and touch and caress and hug and listen and heal and pray. For all these are a part of My Love and My care and My concern for those that I wish to bestow a touch of healing on. So be touched with My Love, that you may touch others. Will you say, 'I have given once, it is enough'? For there will be many upon the road of your day; many occasions for you to recognize a need for love. Therefore stop your working, be touched by My Spirit. For as you have done it unto the least of these, you have done it unto Me. Have I not given you the sample of the good shepherd who leaves the ninety-and-nine, the duty, the responsibility, the administration, all that he thinks he must do, and his

heart is pulled toward the one who cries and has need, to rescue those that are in need? Therefore, think not that you know what to do, but look and listen, for I have to whisper into your ears what I see behind the outward appearance. Learn to look upon the heart, for I see it not as man sees.

107. I know that being honest is difficult. I had many encounters on Earth where I too was faced with the choice of whether to be honest or not. I knew that I should speak the truth in love to one of My disciples, a friend, or even a leader of the day, but it was hard. I knew the reception might not be the greatest. I knew it would hurt in some cases. I knew that they would rather have love and sweetness from Me, and I was tempted to not bring up such a matter many times. But I yielded to My Father, and I asked Him for counsel about exactly how to present My feelings and thoughts, and how to make it most acceptable. Once I had received that instruction, I prayed for courage and faith to deliver My heart and soul, and then I did.

Being honest and not withholding things that are on your heart--whether they're about your husband or wife, your teamworker, your shepherd, your friend, your sheep, or whoever--is part of the price of leadership. You won't be able to be a completely effective leader or one that people will feel comfortable with if you're not consistently honest. You will also be robbing those around you of one of the prime functions that you are supposed to be providing, and that is your honest and prayed-about counsel and direction. You will also be robbing yourself of the help, understanding, explanation and victories that you more easily receive when you're honest.

108. The true leaders and shepherds are the ones who do the job to their own hurt. They're the ones who take the correction; who bear it bravely; who take the flak from those under them who don't understand the whole picture and criticize them; who are loving and patient with those who rail against them and condemn them; who are weak enough to admit their failings and seek Me for help; who are humble enough to be honest with others and share their hearts, in order to create and maintain unity, and to help their brothers and sisters stay on the straight and narrow, without exuding a spirit of condescension, condemnation, or judgment. They speak the truth in love, and do it as unto Me.

Those are the kind of people that are able to go the furthest and fulfill My perfect plan for them, because they're willing to go the distance and do the tough things. They aren't here for themselves; they're looking to the city that hath foundations, of which I am the Builder and Maker. They have their eyes set on Heavenly things, therefore they're willing to endure the grime and toil of daily living and the messes that can come along with it. They're not going to compromise and choose a smoother path over the one that will take them to the peak of the mountain, even though the rocks and thistles and brambles are a bit uncomfortable. They have a goal and they know where they're going, and because they have met the requirements I've set before them, the climb and the eventual victory is glorious.

109. (Dad speaking:) Look, kids, when the Lord calls you, He calls you, and there's nothing that you can or should do about it except to obey. I've heard and seen that a lot of you are adamantly opposed to serving the Lord in any kind of leadership position, and you avoid it like the plague. Well, say what you will about the rigors and difficulties of leadership, but refusing to consider any aspect of your service for the Lord is just plain disobedience and unyieldedness.

You can't have places that you will not go for the Lord. He is a strict commander and He requires complete obedience. And even if He's not asking you to go somewhere and lead people at this time, He still doesn't like to hear you say that if He did ask that of you, you wouldn't go.

Believe me, I understand the fears or reservations you may have. I had'm too. I had times in my life where I was dodging the Lord's call to be a shepherd to His flock. But in the end, if that's what the Lord has in store for you, then you can't avoid it without disobeying Him and stepping outside of His will. It might not be your idea of fun or your idea of a career, and it might seem like the last thing in the world you want to do, but if it's His plan for you, then that's that. You can't say no to God. I found that out the hard way as you've read in my testimonies about joining the army or when I temporarily passed on because of my poor decisions.

You can't afford to have untouchable areas in your life, because then the Enemy can use those things, those chinks in your armor, to expand his little area of Huddersfield, and to search and try to find what other things you won't do for God, and what other things he can make you refuse to do for the Family. Yes, leadership and shepherding is hard and it's not for everyone, but if you're God's man or woman at God's time, then He will give you the grace and the talents and anointing for it if you'll only say yes to Him.

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