

# MELVIN JOURNAL

## Melvin J. Steinbron



(week 2)

### IT'S IN THE BOOK

*"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care" (1 Pet. 5:2, NIV)*

"God said it! I believe it! That settle it!" Bumper sticker faith is not always reliable, but this one certainly is. How dare anyone doubt that lay people are to pastor when God speaks so clearly.

His Scripture: 1) Reveals the concept; 2) Calls us to care for one another; 3) Teaches that His Spirit gives pastoring gifts to believers; 4) Provides models for caring for His people.

So far I have done a lot of talking about pastoring. It's time to define what I mean. Pastoring is: ***caring for another by giving one's self in Christian love to a relationship in times of weakness and times of strength.*** My definition assumes the following:

everybody needs another who cares for him or her; the strength of caring is in the relationship; Christian love is giving love; and, people needs somebody who care for them consistently, both when they are in need and when all is well.

THE FIRST LAY PASTORS: The concept of lay pastoring originates in the Scriptures. Peter was still a fisherman at heart when Jesus called to him: "Take care of my sheep" (John 21:16, *NIV*). He had gone back to fishing after Jesus' death and resurrection. The elders whom Peter pressed into pastoring with the words, "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care" (1 Pet. 5:2, *NIV*), were not formally schooled for pastoring. When Paul write to the "saints" at Ephesus to instruct them that every one of them was given gifts for ministry, gifts that were to be enhanced and directed by pastor-teachers, he was writing to people who had no professionally designated role (see Eph. 4:7-12).●

*from the book, **Can the Pastor Do It Alone?***



**You know that** there are two kinds of care: *general care* and *specific care*. Identify the major issues in those sentences that you have read. Think on to each care. And how do they impact your church and people?  
Byeong