



Shepherding the Flock

First District Fall Convocation | Bishop Julius H. McAllister, Sr., Presiding Prelate

Saturday, November 12, 2022 | Rev. Kevin T. Taylor, Presenter



Edifying a “Transitioning Church” by raising awareness of:





Pastors, what are your top three expectations for the sheep of your flock?

Great Expectations

Laity, what are your top three expectations for the shepherd of your flock?





Biblical Examples of Shepherds

<u>Example</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Example</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
Abel	Genesis 4:2	Jacob's Sons	Genesis 47:3
Abraham	Genesis 21:28	Moses	Exodus 2:17
Lot	Genesis 13:5	David	1 Samuel 17:34-36
Isaac	Genesis 26:12-15	Mesha	2 Kings 3:4
Jacob	Genesis 30:32	Amos	Amos 1:1
Rachel	Genesis 29:9	Of Jesus's Birth	Luke 2:8-20





A HELPING HAND

- Sheep can't right themselves if they're on their back
 - **These sheep, called “cast sheep” need a helping hand from the shepherd**
- Thought to Remember: *Those who are cast aside by society need the focus of the shepherd and flock*



AUTHENTICITY

- Sheep have an excellent sense of smell
 - **Sheep have scent glands in front of their eyes and between the digits of their hooves that produce smelly secretions used to communicate with one another**
- Thought to Remember: *Sheep have an appreciation for when their shepherd is sincere. Is your congregation seeing the genuine YOU?*



CONNECTION

- Sheep do not remain in flocks simply for protection from predators
 - **Sheep form strong bonds with one another, such as those between a mother and her lamb, and other friendships**
 - **Studies have revealed that sheep can distinguish between different emotional expressions**



CONNECTION CON'T

- This is a very important skill for sheep to have, as knowing how other sheep are feeling is the basis for forming strong social relationships and keeping the flock safe
- Thought to Remember: *How are you connecting with your flock on a personal level? Are you calling, visiting, texting/writing them? Celebrating their milestones, mourning their loses?*



"BREAK" EVERY CHAIN

**Wasting
Time**

Having meetings without agendas

**Being
Insular**

"Taking turns" for honorees Women's Day, Men's Day, and other special days

**Change
Adverse**

"That's the way we've *always* done it"

**Being
Lukewarm**

Unwelcoming to visitors, new members

Shepherds can help the sheep "break" bad habits, such as the ones above



*My Lord, please
revive our church
body with a healthy
heart and a steadfast
spirit, so that we may
truly love you in a
deep and intimate
way. Refresh our
souls with the Word
of God and replenish
our hearts with your
holiness. In Jesus
Name, Amen.*





Pastors, what are your top three expectations for the sheep of your flock?

Great Expectations

Laity, what are your top three expectations for the shepherd of your flock?

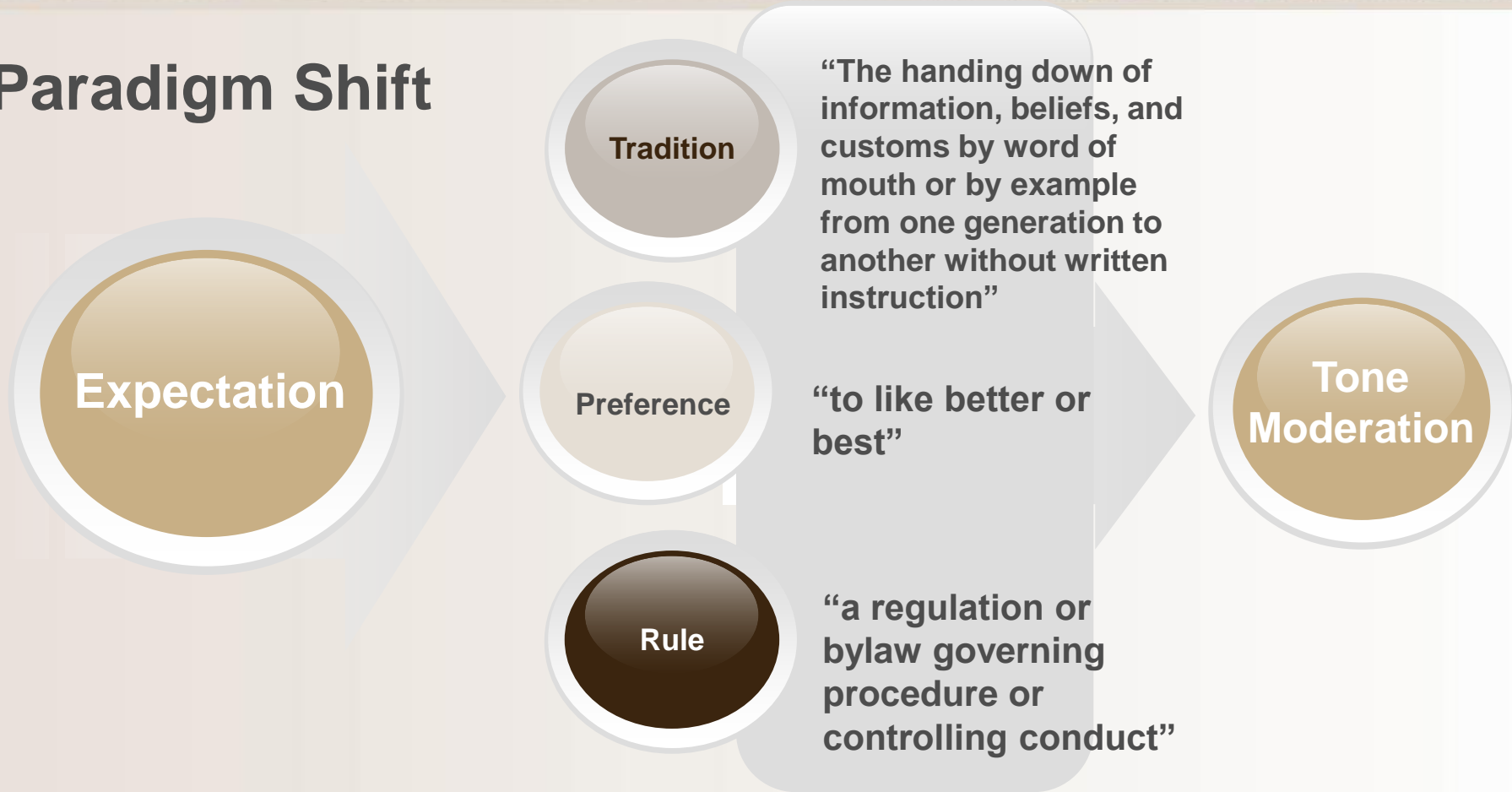
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Paradigm Shift







LISTEN FOR GOD'S VOICE

- Moses heard it in the burning bush
- The shepherds of Luke 2 heard it “while they were keeping watch over their flocks”
- Thought to Remember: *Are you giving your shepherd the space to hear God's voice?*



PLAN FOR THE FLOCK

- In the springtime there is an abundance of green pasture, and usually the sheep are allowed to graze near to the village where the shepherd's home is located
 - **After the grain is reaped, the sheep feed on certain fresh growths, or dried blades, or an occasional ear of grain that the reapers may have left or was overlooked by the gleaners**
 - **When this source of food is exhausted then the pasture is sought in other places**



PLAN FOR THE FLOCK CON'T

- In the late autumn or winter months, there are times when the shepherd can find no pasturage that is available for his flock, and then she/he must become responsible for feeding the animals themselves

Thought to Remember: Are you enabling your shepherd an opportunity to see the moves of God (e.g., Sermons, Bible Studies, ministry opportunities, social action impact, etc.) and to help the flock to meet God there?



GRACE

Quote from an actual shepherd:

“Shepherds must be willing to be humbled daily. If there is any one thing that can bring you to your knees, it is shepherding. There will be days when you make the wrong decision, when you overlook the obvious, when the not so obvious will attack and leave you on your knees. If ever you thought you knew it all, forget it! There will always be days when you realize there is much yet to learn.”

Thought to Remember: Are you praying for your pastor and their family? Are you extending grace in their shortcomings and celebrating their successes?




Pray for your Pastor!

"Then I will give you shepherds after
My own heart, who will feed you on
knowledge and understanding."

Jeremiah 3:15 (NASB)



I AM *John 10:11*
THE GOOD SHEPHERD.
The Good Shepherd gives His life for the sheep.



REMEMBER JESUS

"LOOK, THE
LAMB OF GOD,
WHO TAKES
AWAY THE SIN
OF THE
WORLD!"
JOHN 1:29





QUESTIONS?
ANSWERS!

QUESTIONS?
ANSWERS!

QUESTIONS?
ANSWERS!

Thank You!

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