We All Need Shepherding

(All prophecies are Jesus speaking unless otherwise indicated.)

Even the System Uses Shepherding

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.

Needing help and input from others is a human necessity, as evidenced by the role of the rabbi or priest of old who was sought out for his godly counsel based on the Scriptures. The wisdom of the older sought out by the younger was a beautiful way of learning and growing in many societies where they lived together as large families under one roof.

Before the rise of the Internet there were columns in almost every paper where the readers could ask Ann Landers and others for advice on personal questions and problems. And now, with the Internet, there are many more sources of advice. Look at the support groups for almost anything under the sun, from AA to weight-loss programs to parent support groups for new parents, homeschooling parents, bereaved parents, and so many more help groups for all sorts of issues.

Look at the many books available, offering everything from advice on a sport all the way to the self-help books that give advice on how to train yourself to work better, work smarter, live healthily, communicate more deeply, sleep better, and more.

Why? It's a human necessity to get help and advice from others, and it's smart to learn from others' experience. Those who have experience in a certain area often also have a natural God-given desire to share that experience for the benefit of others. Many athletes become coaches, because they know what the one who's participating in that particular sport will need in order to succeed. They have learned themselves and can teach what to watch out for, how to best train, what to avoid, etc.

Bottom line: I created people to need support and input from others. Humans need other humans. You need the help of others in order to fully mature and grow and progress spiritually, just as sheep need shepherds in order to thrive.

As you grow in the ways of godliness, it's wise to seek out that friend who can help you on this journey, someone who's gone before you on that path of godliness, or who I've simply anointed to be your "coach" and help you. It's not only a shortcut to learning, but it will enrich your life, for "two are better than one"! (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10). [1]

(Dad speaking:) Even in the world today they promote shepherding, because it's the inborn nature of man to need this help. In the world, because so many fail to fill this role, such as parents and teachers, they're finding a need to put in place their own type of "shepherds." They call them guidance counselors, marriage counselors, psychoanalysts, psychiatrists, doctors of this and that.

These are all shepherds in their own right--worldly shepherds--and sad to say, more often than not, misguided ones, blind leaders of the blind, because they've gotten off the one true Center--Jesus! So many of these worldly shepherds are leading the masses astray. Nevertheless, the need for shepherding is there, because God created man to need a shepherd. When it comes to relationships, the System's got oodles of marriage counselors, guidance counselors, how-to books and manuals and whatnot!

But we in the Family have the true shepherds, those who care for your souls! And most of all, those who have the wisdom of God, who will unite with you to help you and love you, so that together you can find God's solutions.

Where else will you find such loving shepherds and parents in the Lord who are willing to love you, to understand you and your needs, who are willing to listen and to communicate, and who are humble enough to share their own experiences and mistakes so you can learn from them? They're willing to share their own discoveries, their own lessons, and their own tips and secrets for success--all to help you move toward a happy, fruitful relationship!

Together you can find answers and pull down new treasures and tips and jewels from the Heavenlies! There's nothing like the true counsel of the Lord, made available to you not only in the privacy of your bedchamber where you're able to receive His intimate, personal Words as He whispers in your ear, but also through the multitude of wise counsel--all that He's made available to you through your shepherds.

Take it from me, folks, you can't survive without it, because it's God's plan--and His plan always works best. Jesus Himself is the Good Shepherd, but He's given us all lots of good earthly shepherds to help lighten our load. If you want to grow and prosper in your relationship, take every advantage of this opportunity! It's there for you--so use it! [2]

Did I not set up one shepherd over you, even My servant David? And when I brought David Home to Heaven, did I not set up your own beloved Queen Maria and King Peter to shepherd and to lead My flocks of the house of David? And from the top on down, so have I also ordained shepherds of My flocks, pastors of My folds, that you might find guidance, counsel and prayer power in your time of need. Such is the nature of man, for I have created man with this need--the need for each other, the need to communicate, the need to pour out, the need to get help. And to fulfill this need, I set up shepherds.

As My Father sent Me into the world to be your Shepherd, so likewise, now that I am with My Father, I raise up

earthly shepherds over you that they might care for your souls. I set up shepherds over you to care for you, for you are Mine. Your soul belongs to Me; your heart, your mind, and your body are Mine. I love you and I care for My Own, and one way I care for you is through the shepherds which I set up over you to care for your souls.

I am the Good Shepherd and I care for My sheep--and I care for you in a very personal way. When no other earthly shepherd is available, I am able to guide you directly by My hand. Yet I know the frame of man, and I know that in your flesh you were created to need others. I have made you with an inborn need to communicate, to counsel, to pour out, to seek the help of others, to seek prayer with others--mothers and fathers, shepherds in Me. For it is through this structure that I have set in place--this system of pouring out, of opening your heart in all honesty and sincerity, of seeking and receiving counsel and guidance--that I lead you, guide you, and teach you priceless, valuable lessons.

This basic human need for shepherding that each person has is ordained from My hand to teach the individual many, many, many lessons--lessons on faith, trust, sharing, caring, honesty, openness, yieldedness, listening, humility, pride, obedience. For the one who goes to his shepherd, who seeks the direction and counsel and advice of his shepherd, and who follows the instruction and counsel of his shepherd, is exercised in all these matters. It takes faith, it takes humility, it takes yieldedness, it takes listening, it takes being open, it takes sharing, and it takes following in obedience.

A wise man will learn on his own, but a wiser yet will follow closely by his shepherd's side. In this new day I am leading and guiding each one of My children more directly, in a more personal and intimate way. I'm able to guide each one personally, not only through My written Word and through the New Wine that I pour out to My servants the prophets, but also daily in the personal whispers that I speak to each one. Yet you must know, My children, that this does not fully replace the need for shepherding, the need to counsel and pour out and seek the advice and help of your earthly shepherds. Do not neglect this latter part. For this is the nature of man--I have set it in the heart of man to need others.

A wise man, a prosperous man, will seek the counsel of his earthly shepherds, for in this counsel is safety. By wise counsel purposes are established, and in the multitude of counselors there is safety. Seek, therefore, the counsel of your earthly shepherds, of parents, and those who keep watch over your souls, for this is the plan I have ordained. [3]

A shortcut to progress!

The apostle Paul revealed a great and deep truth when he said, "Now we see through a glass darkly, but then face to face" (1 Corinthians 13:12). You are able to communicate in many wonderful ways with Me, and with others in the realm of the spirit, but due to the differences of dimension, it's only when you get to Heaven and are able to see Me face to face that everything will be crystal clear.

The path that you travel spiritually while on Earth is not only foggy and dark, but dangerous, and full of pitfalls and obstructions. You have the light of My Word which helps you see in the dark and shows you where to go--and it's your lifesaver. My Word is your light, and the earthly shepherds I provide for you are like your guides, your companions, your helpers, your counselors.

If you were walking a foggy, dangerous, unknown path, you'd want all the help you could get. Even if you did have a light (My Word), you'd want to travel with others as much as possible, and find safety in their counsel and companionship. Spiritually it's much the same. I have set it up so that you need each other, so that through counsel, prayer, and teamwork, you are able to stay on the straight and narrow path of My will, and progress more quickly and easily than you could on your own.

It's not that your shepherd is above you spiritually, or so much greater and wiser. It's simply a matter of all of My children needing each other for safety, support, strength, and counsel. As you work together with your shepherds and fellow laborers, listen to their counsel, pray, and seek Me together, you guarantee your spiritual safety and forward progress.

All of My children need to both receive and give shepherding. In receiving from those I have anointed to shepherd you, you are strengthened, humbled, and empowered to turn around and share what you have learned and are learning with those I have anointed you to shepherd and counsel.

I have set things up so that everyone needs an outside perspective and the help of others, because you gain unity and all the blessings and benefits that come with it. You also gain humility and spiritual strength. If you are wise you will look at your shepherds as a help, safeguard, and shortcut to progress, and open your heart and life to them. You will see them as your friends, counselors, those who love you and who make it easier for you to reach your spiritual goals. [4]

Seek out shepherding

Receiving shepherding won't always be easy. It's hard to open up your life and to let another person get involved with what seems to be your business, but everyone needs outside help and also someone to be accountable to. When you open your life to shepherding, then you can have that safeguard that keeps you doing those things that you need to, that checks you when you are wrong and reminds you when you start slipping in an area.

An athlete who wants to become better in the sport that he has chosen must get a trainer. In like manner, if you want to be a better disciple you need shepherds, and you need to seek out their help and advice. The advice of a coach or trainer is not always easy to welcome; it usually means hard work, cutting things from your diet that are harmful, long and strenuous hours of training, and having to constantly repeat an action until you get it right. But the trainer and the

athlete both know that it is for the end goal of being the best, of winning a prize, and so the athlete welcomes the trainer's drills and criticism, and is open to changing things which hold them back. So you should be with your shepherds. You should see them as helping you to recognize and overcome the problem areas that hold you back, or compromises that weaken you, pushing you to make progress, and helping you to avoid backsliding and losing ground spiritually.

Being a part of this Family brings with it many challenges. There will always be obstacles and areas you'll have to work on to improve; and if you are seeking the help of your shepherds and aren't afraid to let them into your life, and are getting regular checkups and coaching, then you'll be so much more productive. It's easier to receive shepherding if your attitude is one of desiring shepherding and looking for it. When you have an attitude of knowing you need help and wanting the help, it's much easier to welcome it instead of resisting or resenting it.

So if you want to receive shepherding more easily, if you want to grow more, seek help, accept help, and open your life to the help that can be yours through those that I have anointed and called to be shepherds. Remember too that I might be calling you to lead and shepherd others, and by the mercy that has been shown to you and the help you have received, you can likewise give unto others. I'm always looking for those who are willing to be shepherds--willing to have Me make and break and yet make and break them again, so that they are useful, moldable tools in My hands. And oh, they are so much more beautiful and useful than they were before!

Don't be afraid of showing yourself weak and in need of help. Everyone needs shepherding, including shepherds! Nobody's perfect, and everybody knows that, so needing help is nothing to hide or be ashamed of. It's not a sign of failure to need some correction or counsel. It's hiding your faults or trying to ignore them that is wrong.

Don't be afraid to seek out counsel or shepherding, rather than just waiting for it to come to you. Sometimes you've got to go look for it, ask for it, and not be afraid to let your shepherds know that you want and need help. This might seem contrary to your feelings. *What? I'm not sure if I like the idea of someone getting involved and asking questions about my personal life. I don't know if I want correction.* But search your heart, My love. Ask yourself, *Do I want to grow and progress in every area of my life? Do I want to be the most on-fire and militant disciple I can be? Do I want to keep up with all the new moves of the Spirit that the Lord has been revealing?* If your answer is yes to those questions, then deep down, whether you realize it or not, you want shepherding. You know you need it.

If left to its own devices without challenge or interference, it's human nature to let lethargy and compromise begin to creep in and take over. It's not part of your human nature to push yourself to excel in spirit, to continually choose the humble path, to do the loving thing, and make sure you're staying on the attack against your problem areas. It's a death to your flesh. That's why having a check and balance in place by way of shepherding is so crucial.

If you don't seem to be getting a lot of counsel, and you feel you may be starting to slow in spirit rather than progress, speak up! You're doing yourself a big favor when you share with others what I've been showing you, and let them help check you or prod you to keep growing. If you've been faithful to hear from Me, I won't let you slack off. I'll give you the counsel straight. But sharing what I've been showing you--including the various steps I've asked you to take in different areas of your life--will help to safeguard you and ensure that you're actually doing the things I've told you to do.

For example, perhaps you have a problem with thinking negatively about yourself. You've heard from Me, and I've told you over and over how much I love you, and I've given you the solution of praise. I've told you that the solution is to praise Me every time a negative thought comes to mind--thanking Me for something you like about yourself, or for your blessings in general. You then share this counsel from Me with one of your shepherds.

One evening, after a particularly long and stressful day, you're feeling discouraged and want to "vent" to this shepherd--spouting your frustrations as well as your feelings of failure and negativity about yourself. After listening for a while, and offering a hug and some encouragement, your shepherd might then remind you of My promises of victory through praising, and offer to have some praise time and loving Jesus time together with you. It totally brings you out of the "dumps" and you end up having a wonderful evening.

In this case, any kind of an encouraging word and some counsel from your shepherd probably would've helped, but because they knew about My specific counsel to you and helped you to implement it, it helped you to get a better and more lasting victory!

My loves, the caretaking of your spirit, your heart, your life, is of utmost importance to Me. I want you to be happy. I want you to be fruitful. I want to make it as easy as possible for you to get and stay close to Me. That's why I've put this shepherding framework in place between you, Me, and your shepherds. If you make use of this framework correctly and consistently, you'll find that you're building a spiritual temple of your heart and mind that cannot collapse or even be shaken (1 Corinthians 3:16). Your spirit will be a strong vessel that I can pour My love through to this needy world.

So accept shepherding, and look for it, rather than only waiting for it to come to you. It's the wise thing to do, and the easiest. [5]

Not a defect but a feature!

You can liken your growth as a Christian, as My disciple, as one of My brides, to your growth in the physical from an infant to an adult. When you are a baby, your parents take care of you and do everything for you. They love you, they feed you, they talk to you and teach you to talk, they keep you clean, they help you to learn about the world around you, they provide for you in every way. There is very little you can do for yourself at first.

As you grow, you learn to walk, to talk, to feed yourself, and you can get around at least a little bit without as much help as before. Then you start school, and you have teachers who teach you how to read and write, do simple

math, and other basic skills that will help you on your way to further, greater, and more rapid growth in learning all that you need so that you can make further steps toward maturity and a measure of independence. You also keep learning from your parents, and from peers and other individuals you come in contact with.

As you progress through each grade, through childhood, then puberty, at each stage you become less dependent upon your teachers as you put to use your skills of reading, writing, and study to expand your horizons and educate yourself through your own initiatives. As you grow and progress through the different grades in school, you mature and become more capable of doing things yourself, so that you are able to do more homework, projects, and research on your own. In short, you grow into adulthood.

So it is in the spiritual. First you are born again into My Kingdom as a newborn babe. Your first shepherds, perhaps those who led you to Me, are like your parents. They pray with you and for you, keeping you clean and encouraged. They lead you to My Words and spoon-feed them to you at first, teaching you of their importance. They love you and encourage you, and show you how to love others. They answer your questions as they point you to Me and My Words. They show you how to hear from Me as you watch them do so by their example. They get you started in your new life with Me.

Then, as you learn to read My Words on your own and get fed from them, as you learn to come to Me in prayer for your needs and My help, as you learn to hear from Me step by step, you grow in your spiritual life and walk with Me. And throughout this growth, you receive and benefit from the help and guidance of others, who are like teachers or coaches or facilitators--who care for your soul and who I have ordained to help you to continue to progress in your spiritual life.

They lead you to Me through their counsel and guidance, praying for you and fighting by your side in the spirit when you encounter obstacles and go through battles and difficulties, showing you how to go to My Word to find the answers that you need to specific situations and problems, helping you to apply the Word that you read, and helping you to grow in learning to hear from Me. As you continue to grow and progress spiritually, these teachers, your shepherds, aid you in becoming more dependent upon Me and My Words and your link with Me, to where you become more able to receive My help and instruction and direction on your own.

As you grow into a more mature Christian, you become better able to receive My help, answers, and shepherding directly via your channel to Me and through My Word and your implementation of it. But you will continue to need a measure of input, help and counsel from others--shepherds--for the remainder of your earthly life, because I have ordained it to be so. No one person can become totally sufficient in themselves and be all that I want and need them to be without the help of others.

It's not that I am not capable of giving all the help that you need, but I have set things up this way for your benefit, so that you would be humbled through your need not only for Me, but for others and their help, prayer, counsel and support.

You receive a very great benefit through being open to the help and support of others, and also giving and supporting others, because you become more closely bonded and united with other disciples and followers of Me, and thus you are much stronger through your unity than you could be on your own. I know that to have a strong weapon in My hands to defeat the Enemy, and a solid tool to reach those who do not yet know Me, and in order to spread My message far and wide, I need those who are not only strong in their connection with Me and My Words and My Spirit, but also strong in their love and dependence upon one another, their need for one another. You, My Family, can only be complete and what I want and need for the job at hand by being strongly linked together, united in love and in need for one another.

I built this need into mankind--that each person would need Me most of all and above all, but that he would never be sufficient on his own, even with Me, because of his need for others. I have built into each person certain weaknesses that cause them to need others, to not be able to make it on their own. These "flaws" or "weaknesses" bind My children together in love and humility, and united, they become a strong force against the Enemy and a powerful tool in My hands, fitting My overall plan.

So do not feel bad because you have weaknesses and need others. That's the way I made you. It's not a defect, it's a feature! I did it so that you would not only reach out to Me and depend on Me and cling to Me, but so you would also need others and hopefully reach out to them too.

You'll never be completely sufficient without your brothers and sisters, your fellow brides. It's all a part of My wise divine plan; and needing and receiving shepherding from earthly shepherds is a key piece of the puzzle in this plan. Shepherds not only help you to stay connected with Me and My Word and to implement it in your life, but as you stay open to the counsel and input of others, it helps you to be more closely connected with your mates and fellow laborers. As you all give to one another, it keeps the connections between each of you strong and clean and clear of static and obstacles of the Enemy, so that you can be that strong weapon and powerful tool that I need you to be in My hands. [6]

Just as all have sinned and fallen short of My glory, so have all disobeyed at one time or another and needed shepherding, both human and divine. Even David of old, both king and prophet, a man after Mine Own heart who obeyed in many big and little ways, required this shepherding. I took a personal hand in shepherding him, it is true, but at times I also enlisted the help of the prophet Nathan to bear messages to him, in the situation with Bathsheba and at other times. Nathan was not only My voice to him but also at times his shepherd, as he counseled David and helped make My will clear to him.

So you can obey in many ways and in most things and do great works for Me, My dear ones. You benefit greatly

from hearing My voice and are blessed as you follow My instructions, My heavenly guidance and shepherding. But until you reach Heaven, you will require earthly shepherding as well, for it is in the multitude of counselors that purposes are established and shepherding is given. [7]

Shepherding Doesn't Take the Place of Personal Choice

Shepherding will never take the place of personal choice. Receiving shepherding is like going to a counselor and listening to good advice. You hear the counsel, and then it's up to you to decide if and how you are going to make that counsel a part of your life and habits, and whether you are going to change things in your life because of it.

I have given you shepherds to give you godly counsel and point you to My Word and to My ways. I have not given you shepherds so that you can relinquish your responsibility to make choices that affect you and your family personally. I leave that responsibility with you. Your shepherds are there to point you to Me and to My Word, to give you counsel, to help bring things to your attention and to be a strength to you, but you must still come to Me and get desperate with Me. Their job is to assist you in your personal desire and quest to have a closer walk with Me and to grow in the life of service to Me that you have chosen, but not to take the wheel and start steering your life for you.

You must determine in your heart where your faith lies when it comes to personal decisions. I can see your heart and I know where your faith lies, and I choose to work within the realm of your faith. So when it comes to making the personal decisions that you face, it's good to seek godly counsel and to heed it, but you must also come to Me and let Me speak to your heart and show you what My will is within the realm of your faith. There are seven ways to know My will, and godly counsel is one of the seven, but it is not the only way to know My will. You must also go to My Word, hear My personal counsel to you, and find out where your faith lies.

I have given you shepherds to be a help to you, so that you have someone to counsel with, to pray with, to love you, to be there for you during the tough times, someone you can talk with who will understand and point you to Me, someone who can help you to see things from a different perspective or point things out to you that are not right. I have not given you shepherds to tell you what to do or to take the decision-making responsibility out of your hands. You are wise to listen to your shepherds' counsel, but then you must take that counsel to Me and make the final decision on personal matters yourself. You are the one who needs to make these decisions, since you are the one who will reap the consequences of the decisions you make.

It's human nature in many cases to go to others for help, for answers, for instruction, for guidance, or for direction when things aren't going so well in your life or when there is a decision to be made. It's also often human nature to lean on others' opinions, ideas, and ways of doing things. When different situations come into your life and you need answers, often your first thought is to call on someone for help, to find someone who will tell you what to do.

It's good to counsel with others, to receive godly counsel, to get prayer, to get a listening ear, to get some words of comfort, encouragement, and advice, but remember that the final decision needs to be made by you--in counsel with Me. It's a lot easier to ask someone for the answers rather than doing the hard work of seeking Me for yourself. But you can't go the route of just asking others and neglecting to seek Me yourself.

It's very important that you, or you and whoever else is ultimately involved, have the faith for the action, for the solution. You should not rely only on what others think or feel should be done. While you may take their advice and seriously consider it and pray about it, in the end it has to be your faith and your decision.

Shepherds are there to listen, pray for, and give godly counsel to others who find themselves in difficult circumstances and have questions such as: Should I change jobs? Should I quit my job? Should we get married? Should I move to another city? Should I take the doctor's advice to have an operation? Should I take my child out of public school and homeschool him instead? It's good to go to shepherds for counsel, and in the multitude of counselors there is safety (Proverbs 11:14), but I want to reinforce that the final decision of what you do is according to your faith.

If you are a parent and your child is sick and you wonder if you should take him or her to the doctor, it's good to counsel with your shepherd and have others pray with you and for you, and perhaps hear from Me for you in addition to what you receive from Me yourself. There may be things that I want to show you through them that you haven't seen that will be good to take into account when making the final decision. But still, the final decision is in your court. That's a decision that is your responsibility to make.

It is important that you do not act solely on the advice of your shepherd, as you could end up acting on false faith. False faith is when you follow through on counsel that is given, but you don't have the conviction and certainty in your heart which that faith gives. It's when you don't have faith that you are doing the right thing, but you think that because the shepherd suggested it, it's probably the right thing to do, since it came from the shepherd.

The right thing to do is what I show you to do and what you personally have the faith for, not what your shepherd, or whoever you talked with, has the faith for. The final decision is for you and any others involved to decide.

There are many reasons why you should not simply make a decision based on someone else's faith. One of the most important reasons is that decision-making gives you experience, teaches you lessons, and helps you to grow and mature. Your life is yours to live, and yours to learn from too. Learning to listen to advice, but to ultimately find your own faith, to find My recommendation for you, and to make a prayerful decision for yourself is how you progress in spirit. Life is full of decisions, and they are a constant shaping and directing force on your life and your character. Letting someone else decide for you, or blindly following another's advice, is not the way to growth and wisdom. It's a shortcut that bypasses the lessons and progress I have for you.

Also, if you were to listen to your shepherd or your friend and act on the advice they've given you, without having full faith yourself that this is the right course of action, and then something went wrong, it could cause damage to your relationship with that person, because the natural reaction is to blame the person who suggested that you consider doing such and such. Of course, a mature person will realize that what they do in life is their own choice, and the consequences fall on them too. But this is one reason why it's important that you are the one making the decision and that you act according to what you believe is the right thing to do.

The best one to talk to when making a final decision is Me. I will give you the direction to take. It's good and helpful to ask your shepherd for counsel, and especially to ask him or her to pray for you to hear from Me clearly so you can make a wise decision. I will show you the best possible route to take. I will be your sound counselor in these difficult decisions.

But, whatever you do, don't act on the counsel of others without having a personal conviction and the faith for it. It's not that you shouldn't ever take someone else's advice. Godly counsel is one of the ways of discovering My will, and I may well show you that so-and-so's advice is My will for you, and encourage you to follow it. But the difference is that you sought Me and you have the faith for it, and you made the final decision.

I am always there to help you, to give you advice and direction, so pray and ask Me. I will not lead you astray if you'll commit your ways to Me. Seek Me and I will shine a light on the path you must take, the decision you must make. Together we are an unbeatable team, and I will give you the faith you'll need to act on the decision we make. I love you and I want us to be a team in the decisions you must make in your life.

You don't want to get overly dependent on others for all of your answers and counsel. There is a balance, in that while it is good to seek the counsel and prayer of others for questions or situations that come up in your life, you don't want to defer the responsibility of making your decisions to others, instead of coming to Me and seeking Me about what's on your heart.

The idea is to use shepherding as a tool, but not to rely on it like a crutch. There will be plenty of times in life when you'll face decisions that only you can make, or when you will need to do something that only you can do, and you need to have your faith built up and ready to trust Me for the answers and direction that I give you in those times, and have the faith and peace of mind to follow through on them. This is another reason why it's important to build up and strengthen your faith; you never know when you'll need those muscles strong and ready for use.

Be open to shepherding and to using this tool that I have given you, and also learn when it is time to stand on your own feet and put your trust and faith in Me, taking a stand of faith and personal responsibility. Are you allowing shepherding to enhance your faith and connection with Me, and bring you closer to Me? Or is it something that you rely on so that you don't have to come to Me and seek Me for My counsel and answers? Shepherding and godly counsel can help you learn how to make wise decisions, but they don't make the decisions for you.

The days are coming when you will have to make some choices and decisions by yourself for yourself which could have dire consequences. Will you have the faith and a solid enough connection with Me to stand on your own two feet and follow what I give you? Or will you be looking around for someone else to rely on, someone else's faith and channel who you could follow instead of your own? [8]

1. Why Shepherding, Part 1 #3640:9-15
2. Communication in Marriage and Other Relationships! #3196:121-126
3. Loving Interaction! #3234:101-106
4. Why Shepherding, Part 1 #3640:28-33
5. Why Shepherding, Part 1 #3640:70-82
6. Why Shepherding, Part 1 #3640:16-27
7. Get Up and Get Over It, Part 1 #3497a:51, 52
8. Why Shepherding, Part 2 #3649:17-36