

*Live into
your
calling[®]*

30-Day

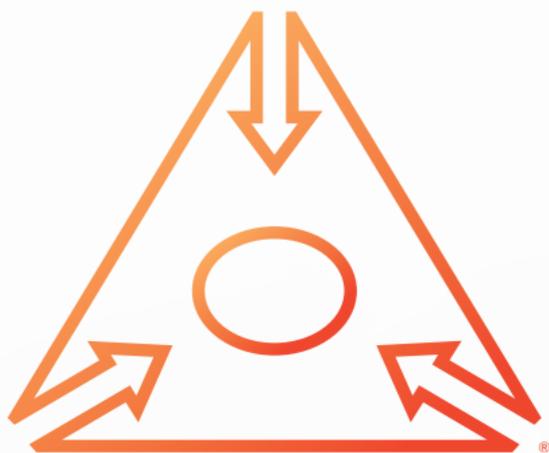
**Shepherd Leadership
Challenge · Vol. 1**

 **PRESENCE
POINT[®]**

The Leader's Shield

PRESENCE

At hand; physically and/or emotionally available and engaged



PROVISION

To take care of or to furnish or supply a need of another

PROTECTION

The act of safeguarding, shielding another from harm, or guarding against danger

30-Day Shepherd Leadership Challenge Vol. 1

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Welcome to the 30-Day Shepherd Leadership Challenge!

We invite you to spend the next 30 days developing yourself as a shepherd leader. Be encouraged to spend five minutes each morning, for 30 days, reading and personalizing your response to the challenge provided. Then, decide if Provision, Protection, and/or Presence is where you need to focus for that day. Digging deeper into God's Word and translating each challenge into practical application for *your* shepherding journey will be a life-changing experience for you and those you influence. Since shepherding is more about who you are than what you do, be prepared for this journey to stretch and challenge you.

We promise — it will be worth it!

Ephesians 4:1

“...Lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.”

As you walk the shepherd leadership road, you may find your journey has you taking three steps forward... and, sometimes, one or two steps back. That's okay — it's still progress! Praise God the Good Shepherd never gives up on us. Because He knows and loves the sheep deeply He won't stop refining us, teaching us, and guiding us to shepherd well those in our care. His desire is that we move beyond service — to sacrifice — and live fully into our calling as shepherds.

So, are you ready?? As you work through this journal, lean in hard. Be honest. Don't give up. Challenge yourself. We believe the time you invest will change your life... and the lives of those you influence... forever!!

The Presence Point Team
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**May you
Live Into Your Calling®
as shepherd in the lives
of those you lead!**

Genesis 4:2

Later she gave birth to his brother and named him Abel. When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd, while Cain cultivated the ground.

No matter where you fall in the birth order of your family, as you grew you were given assignments to lead. You became a shepherd. Where do you influence others today? How would those individuals describe the Provision, Protection, and Presence you offer them?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

I Peter 5:2

Care for the flock that God has entrusted to you. Watch over it willingly, not grudgingly — not for what you will get out of it, but because you are eager to serve God.

Peter's admonition is to lead because you want to, not because you have to. How eager are you to care for your family, your work team, or your life group? Are there attitudes or actions you need to change to *up the ante* on your readiness?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Genesis 29:9

Jacob was still talking with them when Rachel arrived with her father's flock, for she was a shepherd.

Rachel, Moses, and David were all shepherds. Influence is not limited by gender... or disability or age or location. We must not allow perceived limitations to hinder our ability to shepherd well. How are perceived limitations affecting your shepherding?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

John 10:3a

The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep recognize his voice and come to him.

The sheep in our lives know our voice, our moods, our reactions. They often wait with anticipation to hear that voice to gauge how their own day, weekend, or evening will be affected. What does your voice communicate to the sheep in your life?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

- PROVISION** **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Psalm 78:72

And David shepherded them with integrity of heart; with skillful hands he led them.

Skill alone isn't enough to shepherd well. Neither are character traits, such as honor, uprightness, and truthfulness. It requires both skill and integrity to lead well. Which of these areas need attention in your leadership roles and how will you address them today?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Jeremiah 23:1

“What sorrow awaits the leaders of my people — the shepherds of my sheep — for they have destroyed and scattered the very ones they were expected to care for,” says the LORD.

Self-awareness, feedback, and leadership development were clearly not the goals of the leaders of Jeremiah's time... and they paid a dear price for their selfishness. What can you do today to increase your selflessness and become more aware of your shepherd development needs?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

- PROVISION** **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Ezekiel 34:11

For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "I myself will search and find my sheep."

It's clear that God is the ultimate Shepherd. In verses 12 through 24 of this passage, Ezekiel quotes 18 "I" statements by God indicating how He will care for His flock. What are your strengths in caring for your flock, and how can you leverage them today?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Psalm 23:1

The LORD is my shepherd; I have all that I need.

Provision: to take care of or to supply the needs of another. Wherever we lead, the followers in our lives always have a variety of needs. How are you meeting the individual needs of those you lead in a manner appropriate for your shepherding role?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION**PROTECTION****PRESENCE**

Mark 6:34

Jesus saw the huge crowd as he stepped from the boat, and he had compassion on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

As a shepherd leader, developing those we lead often falls under our purview. Patience, kindness, good communication, effective listening skills, and a sense of humor are well-known traits of a good teacher. How do you need to develop these traits before your next training assignment?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

- PROVISION** **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Luke 2:8

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep.

Protection: the act of safeguarding, shielding another from harm, or guarding against danger. When the angels announced the Messiah's birth to the shepherds, they were in the fields safeguarding the sheep. What are the predators your followers face, and how are you actively shielding them from harm?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION PROTECTION PRESENCE

Amos 7:14

But Amos replied, “I’m not a professional prophet, and I was never trained to be one. I’m just a shepherd, and I take care of sycamore-fig trees.”

Amos, a prophet and author, was also a shepherd and farmer. Although chosen by God to denounce crimes against humanity, he downplays his professional roles. How do you view your role as shepherd? Have you fully embraced your call to lead others?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Isaiah 53:6

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's path to follow our own.

Shepherds, like sheep, often turn to their own way. Unfortunately, when we stray, we affect the lives of other sheep. What are you doing to assure that you follow God's path? Who are the truth-tellers in your life that help you by holding you accountable?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Zechariah 9:16

On that day the LORD their God will rescue his people, just as a shepherd rescues his sheep.

The rod is a tool used by shepherds to discipline and correct wayward sheep, examine and count the flock, and defend both himself and the sheep. What tools are you using to protect and defend the sheep you're leading? Are you using them to their full potential?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

- PROVISION** **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Matthew 9:36

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Compassion, a word not often seen on top ten lists of leadership traits, is essential to Godly shepherding. Showing kindness, being willing to help others, and having concern for the sheep are imperative to leading well. How would those you lead rate your compassion for them?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Psalm 23:3

He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name.

Restoring the sheep's ability to persevere, helping them deal with problems they encounter in an effective way, is a crucial function of the shepherd's role. How are you at guiding and renewing the strength of those you lead?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Jeremiah 23:3

But I will gather together the remnant of my flock from the countries where I have driven them. I will bring them back to their own sheepfold, and they will be fruitful and increase in number.

When led well, people flourish. True shepherds provide the type of environment that enables those around them to vigorously grow and develop. What steps are you taking to facilitate that type of growth in those you lead?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Ezekiel 34:12

I will be like a shepherd looking for his scattered flock. I will find my sheep and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on that dark and cloudy day.

"Never, never, never give up!" is the shortest commencement speech of all time. It's also a trait of a shepherd leader. She will keep looking. She won't give up. She'll bring the sheep back... every time. How's your perseverance with the sheep in your life?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Psalm 23:4a

Even when I walk through the darkest valley, I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.

Presence: at hand; physically and/or emotionally available and engaged. Availability suggests a person is not otherwise occupied. That described a shepherd. They're engaged in activities other than leadership, but when their people need them, they're there — in whatever manner is possible. How available are you?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Genesis 46:34

“You must tell him, ‘We, your servants, have raised livestock all our lives, as our ancestors have always done.’ When you tell him this, he will let you live here in the region of Goshen, for the Egyptians despise shepherds.”

It's wonderful when, as a leader, you're well-liked. Dislike, however, even disdain, can surface. It can happen when we aren't leading well, or others aren't following well, or because of unpopular decisions. Shepherds won't always be loved. How do you deal with those times?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Isaiah 13:14

Everyone in Babylon will run about like a hunted gazelle, like sheep without a shepherd. They will try to find their own people and flee to their own land.

Documentaries display the chaos among a herd of gazelles that discover the scent of a predator. Chaotic — that's what sheep are without a shepherd. Bringing order to chaos — that's what the Godly shepherd does. Do you bring confusion or stability to your home or team?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Exodus 4:2

Then the LORD asked him, “What is that in your hand?” “A shepherd’s staff,” Moses replied.

A lowly shepherd's staff was used as God's instrument to perform miracles in Egypt, demonstrate that Aaron was His choice among the 12 ancestral tribes, part the Red Sea, bring water from a rock, and beat a donkey. How do you use your leadership instruments?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

I Peter 2:25

Once you were like sheep who wandered away. But now you have turned to your Shepherd, the Guardian of your souls.

The Messiah carried our sin, healed our wounds, and is The Shepherd who guards our souls. We, in turn, must carefully guard the souls of those we serve. Everyone's mind, will, emotion, and conscience is easily influenced. How is your leadership influencing them?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

- PROVISION** **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Acts 20:28

“So guard yourselves and God’s people. Feed and shepherd God’s flock — his church, purchased with his own blood — over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders.

Church leaders have a heavy responsibility. Shepherds are overseers. An overseer guards, supervises, and helps. How might your leadership change if you understood that you were appointed by the Holy Spirit to shepherd God's flock?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Psalm 78:71

He took David from tending the ewes and lambs and made him the shepherd of Jacob's descendants — God's own people, Israel.

From sheep fields to battlefields. From celebrated warrior of Israel to hated and hunted by Saul. Adulterer. Murderer. King, Psalmist, and Shepherd. He never forgot his roots or all he'd been forgiven. How is the Great Orchestrator using your experiences today?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Genesis 48:15-16

“May the God before whom my grandfather, Abraham and my father, Isaac, walked — the God who has been my shepherd all my life, to this very day... may he bless these boys.”

Every shepherd needs a shepherd! We need at least one person in our lives who will love us unconditionally, hold us accountable unqualifiedly, teach us, mentor us, coach us unreservedly, and speak wisdom and truth to us wholeheartedly. Who is your shepherd?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

- PROVISION** **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

John 10:11

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd sacrifices his life for the sheep.”

The ultimate example of a servant leader... the shepherd. She cares first for those in her care. She assures they have all they need. Shepherds sacrifice for their sheep — time... money... their own desires. How are you sacrificing for the sheep in your life?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

John 10:14

“I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me...”

A shepherd knows her sheep well. She knows when they're ill, stressed, fearful, or at peace. She knows the meaning of their bleats. They know her voice and come only when she calls. How well do you know those you lead? Is improvement needed?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Genesis 49:24

But his bow remained taut, and his arms were strengthened by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob, by the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel.

Strengthened by God. It truly is the only way we can shepherd effectively. Full reliance on Him. Absolute surrender. He's our rock and the foundation of our strength and stability, our place of refuge. Do you rely on Him? How might you do so more fully?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

John 10:3b

He [the Shepherd] calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

We all listen to someone. The guru of the day, the author of the hour, or the one who knows shepherding best. Who you listen to and who you follow affects all the sheep in your life. Do you know His voice? Is His the voice you follow?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

Psalm 23:5

You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies. You honor me by anointing my head with oil. My cup overflows with blessings.

Celebration. Honor. Blessings. That's what the Good Shepherd has for those who follow Him. Those who choose to join His flock. Do you belong to Him? Will you serve Him? What changes do you need to make today to honor that commitment?



With the sheep in my life, this requires me to focus on:

PROVISION **PROTECTION** **PRESENCE**

**“Now may the God of peace —
who brought up from the dead our
LORD Jesus, the great Shepherd of
the sheep, and ratified an eternal
covenant with his blood —**

**may He equip you with all you
need for doing His will.**

**“May He produce in you, through the
power of Jesus Christ, every good
thing that is pleasing to Him.**

**All glory to Him forever
and ever! Amen.”**

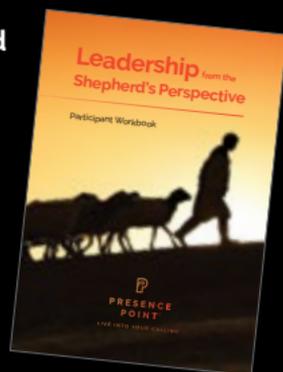
—Hebrews 13:20-21

**If you would like to learn
more about a relationship with
The Good Shepherd, please contact us at
*KnowTheShepherd@PresencePoint.com***

You were called to lead!

Don't miss the potential to live into your calling! Explore your distinct leadership role as shepherd in the lives of those you influence.

- Attend a workshop (in-person and online, on-demand options for adults and teens/young adults)
- Enroll in our one-on-one leadership coaching
- Schedule consulting for your organization or team



Presence Point equips leaders to intentionally live into their calling as shepherds in the lives of those they lead, and partners with multipliers to do the same within their sphere of influence.

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