

**Study Questions for the November 1, 2020 Sermon:
“What Should We Ordain Elders to do?”
Acts 20:17-35, Hebrews 13:7-17, James 5:14**

1. In Acts 20:29, the Apostle Paul prophesied that the congregation will be attacked by “savage wolves”. In verse 30 he warns that the attack will be internal as well as external. In verse 31 he encourages vigilance to protect the congregation:
 - a. What can we do as individuals to remain vigilant?
 - b. How can a church’s governance structure protect the congregation from wayward leaders?
2. 1 Peter 5:2-3 encourages elders to lead by example. Share a time when someone’s example caused you to stop sinning or to engage in some good work.
3. Pastor Paul said that, while elders may be assigned responsibilities based on their skill sets, there will be occasions when they must carry out tasks for which they are not well-qualified. Share a story from scripture in which a believer obeyed God despite a lack of qualifications.
4. Hebrews 13:13-14 states: “Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city...”
 - a. How might this teaching affect our perspective on the upcoming election?
 - b. If there is a verse to which you turn when you are misunderstood or treated contemptuously because of your beliefs, please share it.
5. The context of “double honor” in 1 Peter 5:17 appears to be financial. However, what are other ways a congregation might honor its elders?