

Leading The Church Forward

Study Questions for Week Four

What Do Elders Do?

Acts 20:17-35, Hebrews 13:7-17, 1Tim 5:17-20, 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. The context of “double honor” in 1Timothy 5:17 appears to be financial. However, what are other ways a congregation might honor its elders?
4. Pastor Paul said the elders pray for and with the congregation. How do you communicate the needs you have for prayer to others in the church? How do you let the pastors know?