

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: June 21, 2020
1 Timothy 5:17-22

1. As a reminder from our previous studies, who are the elders that are referred to in verse 17?

2. What does 5:17 tell us about these elders?
 - a. They don't have a clue about the real world because they're always living inside the church walls.
 - b. They can't tell me what to do. Who do they think they are?!?
 - c. They are worthy of double honor.

3. Double honor is a big deal and a lot of people are looking for it. Should we all become elders/overseers/preachers and teachers then (see James 3:1)? _____

4. Why do you think those who oversee the church, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching, are worthy of double honor?
 - a. Because they are better than everybody else.
 - b. Because they work hard for the benefit of others...and sacrifice a lot of their own life and benefit for our good.
 - c. Because their work is so important to our spiritual life and they choose to devote themselves to this work out of love for God and for us.

5. Paul quotes Deuteronomy 25:4 and Luke 10:7. What do these scriptures mean?
 - a. An ox that is muzzled while treading out the grain is not able to partake of the fruit of his own labor.
 - b. It is right for someone to receive a wage for the work that he/she does.
 - c. I think that this would suggest that a pastor being paid out of the tithes and offerings given by the people he or she serves is completely appropriate...and a pastor shouldn't need to feel bad or feel the need to defend it...but this goes contrary to our culture and the thinking of a lot of people who attend (and don't attend) church.

6. Why does Paul say what he says in verse 19?
 - a. Because we should just trust pastors implicitly and never accuse them.
 - b. Because pastors often become the target of accusations that are not true. They are often "public figures" who bring correction from God and that sometimes makes them unpopular.
 - c. Because just like the responsibility of the spiritual lives of the congregation falls on the pastor and makes them worthy of double honor when they direct the affairs of the church well and subject to more strict judgment when they don't, an accusation against a pastor affects more people than just the pastor, so it needs to be considered carefully and corroborated by more than one person before it is considered credible.

7. Why does Paul direct that an elder/pastor who is sinning must be "reproved" before everyone? _____

8. What does Paul suggest in verse 22, in order to avoid such a situation? _____