**1. Read 1Timothy 5:17-19.**

 a. What does it mean for an elder to be counted worthy of “double honor?” (verse 17)

 b. What does” double honor” imply about the honor all elders are to receive.

 c. Why should those who work hard “in the word and doctrine” be given special consideration? (verse 17)

 d. What does Acts 6:1-4 add to your understanding of the requirements of laboring in the ministry of the Word?

 e. What do the two illustrations in 1 Timothy 5:18 suggest about the nature of the “ double honor “ elders were to receive?

 f. Who originally said that the laborer is worthy of his wages? (Luke 10:7)

 g. What kind of “ support” was referred to in that context?

 h. What conclusion can you draw from these passages about the practice of paying elders/ pastors a salary for their support?

 i. What was the source of the “two or three witnesses” standard? (Deuteronomy 17:6;19:15)

 j. Who also confirmed the legitimacy of the standard? (Matthew 18:16)

 k. Why should accusations against elders in particular require two or three witnesses?

**2. Read Ephesians 4:1-6.**

a. Why is the description of the “walk” in verses 2-3 worthy of the calling with which Christians have been called? (verse 1)

 b. Why do the actions of verse 2 lead to the results in verse 3?

 c. What is the point of all the “ones” mentioned in verses 4-6?

 d. If a church divides itself into opposing groups, how does this conflict with verses 4-6?

**3. Read James 4:1-7.**

a. What is the source of dissensions and arguments among people? (verse 1)

 b. What contrast is James’s drawing in verse 2 between the right and wrong way to satisfy one’s desires?

 c. Even when we do ask, why do we sometimes not receive from God? (verse 3)

 d. What method for maintaining unity in the church is embodied in verse 6?

 e. Who is often behind the arguments that destroy the unity of the body? (verse 7)

 f. How is verse 7a connected to verse 6?

**4. From the following verses, what insight do you discover on maintaining joy in the Christian life?**

 a. Philippians 1:18

 b. Philippians 2:17

 c. Philippians 4:1

**5. How many different principles for maintaining unity in the church can you find in Romans 12:9-21?**

**6. From your experience, what presents the greatest temptation for producing division in a local church? What could overcome such a temptation?**