Questions for 1 Peter 5:1-4

1. A) What are the different names used for the position of "elder" in the church? B) Since Peter was both an apostle and an elder, does this mean that one man can hold multiple positions in a congregation (besides an apostle)? C) Since Peter describes himself as an elder, what does that imply about his personal life? (Verse 1)

2. A) What does it mean to "shepherd" the flock of God? B) What responsibilities are covered in serving as "overseers"? (Verse 2)

3. A) Why are elders instructed to serve willingly and not by compulsion? B) Under what circumstances could servitude by compulsion occur and why must it be avoided? C) Should elders be paid? D) How could elders make "dishonest gain" in their position? (Verse 2)

4. A) What does it mean to "lord over those entrusted to you"? B) What options would a congregation have if such a thing were to take place? C) What are elders suppose to be to the congregation instead? (Verse 3)

5. A) Under whose authority do elders belong? B) Who is the "Chief Shepherd"? C) How does the relationship between "shepherds" of a congregation and the "Chief Shepherd" ensure that justice, integrity, righteousness, and a balance of power all exist in the congregations that they serve? (Verse 4)