

Savage Wolves Answer Key

Use this answer key to discuss the students' answers to the Savage Wolves activity in their Student Guides.

- 1. Where do false teachers generally come from? (Acts 20:30; 1 John 2:18–19; 2 Peter 2:1)** *From inside the church, or infiltrating the church.*
- 2. Read Jude 1. What imagery does Jude use to describe false teachers (vv. 4, 8, 10–13, 16–19)?** *Marked for condemnation, ungodly, denying God and Jesus, defile the flesh, reject authority, ignorant, brute beasts, gone the way of Cain, been greedy for gain, rebelled against God, self-serving, clouds without water, trees without fruit, foaming waves, wandering stars, doomed to hell, grumblers, complainers, lusty, flatterers, sensual, causing division, without the Spirit.*
- 3. In 2 John 7–11, what names are given to false teachers? What false doctrine is mentioned?** *They are called deceivers and antichrists. They teach that Jesus has not come in the flesh.*
- 4. According to the example in 2 Timothy 2:14–19, is it appropriate to identify false teachers by name?** *Yes, Paul named Hymenaeus and Philetus as false teachers to avoid. While many today consider this unloving, it is actually an act of love to warn others about false teachers by name so that they can avoid the harm inflicted by them.*
- 5. What word picture does Paul use to describe the spreading of false teaching in 2 Timothy 2:17?** *He compares it to the spreading of a disease like cancer or gangrene.*
- 6. What should be done with false teachers according to Romans 16:17–18 and 2 Timothy 3:5?** *These people should be identified and avoided by those in the church.*
- 7. What remedy for false teaching does Paul prescribe in 2 Timothy 4:1–5 and Titus 2:15?** *Preaching the Word of God in a manner that is to convince, rebuke, and exhort the false teachers and those being led astray. Truth is the remedy for error.*
- 8. What is the fate of those who preach false ideas that are contrary to the gospel according to Galatians 1:6–9?** *They are accursed (anathema) to hell for their false teaching.*

In light of these passages, why did Paul make sure to charge the elders from Ephesus to guard the flock against the savage wolves? *The elders in a church are there to provide the teaching and spiritual oversight of those entrusted to them, serving as undershepherds of the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ (1 Peter 5:1–4). Knowing sound doctrine, these men would be able to recognize errors in teaching and point out those errors. In this they would be warning the sheep of the danger posed by the wolves. Protecting the flock from wolves is a key role of the elders/pastors in a church.*

You may wish to point out some particularly dangerous teachers that are current threats to the flock.