



January 15, 2023

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE: 1 Timothy 5:3-16

³Honor widows who are truly widows. ⁴But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God. ⁵She who is truly a widow, left all alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day, ⁶but she who is self-indulgent is dead even while she lives. ⁷Command these things as well, so that they may be without reproach. ⁸But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

⁹Let a widow be enrolled if she is not less than sixty years of age, having been the wife of one husband, ¹⁰and having a reputation for good works: if she has brought up children, has shown hospitality, has washed the feet of the saints, has cared for the afflicted, and has devoted herself to every good work. ¹¹But refuse to enroll younger widows, for when their passions draw them away from Christ, they desire to marry ¹²and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith. ¹³Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not. ¹⁴So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, manage their households, and give the adversary no occasion for slander. ¹⁵For some have already strayed after Satan. ¹⁶If any believing woman has relatives who are widows, let her care for them. Let the church not be burdened, so that it may care for those who are truly widows. ¹

D-GROUP AGENDA

Welcome & Catch Up

Begin your D-Group time by taking a few minutes to catch up since your last meeting. Share updates regarding prayer requests shared previously and celebrate what God has done and is doing in the lives of your group members.

Read It

Read the scripture passage, highlighting portions that stand out and things you wish to discuss.

Study It

Among your group, discuss those things that stand out in the passage. For things that may be confusing or create more questions, work together to discover God's truth. For some questions, we recommend going to gotquestions.org. This resource offers solid, succinct, biblical answers to many questions.

Some good commentaries on 1 Timothy are:

¹ [The Holy Bible: English Standard Version](#). (2016). (1 Ti 5:3–16). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

Hughes, R. Kent and Bryan Chapell. *1-2 Timothy and Titus: To Guard the Deposit*. Preaching the Word Commentary. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2012.

Köstenberger, Andreas J. *1-2 Timothy and Titus*. Evangelical Biblical Theology Commentary. Bellingham, WA: Lexham, 2020.

Platt, David and Daniel L. Akin. *Christ-Centered Exposition: Exalting Jesus in 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus*. Nashville: Holman, 2013.

Review It

Historically, the church has cared for widows in the fellowship. Why do you believe this has been done?

How could such a good ministry lead to problems?

Can you think of other ministries that are good, but take away from the primacy of the church? Any examples of denominations who have shifted from their primary calling?

What are your thoughts about the numerous qualifications given by Paul in this passage related to widows within the church?

How can family members fall into the trap of leaving others to care for the elderly? What if the elderly in the family were undeserving of care?

Five Questions

1. What did you like about this week's scripture passage and sermon?
2. What did you not like or find confusing about this week's scripture passage and sermon?
3. What does this week's scripture passage and sermon say about God?
4. What does this week's scripture passage and sermon say about humanity?
5. Who outside your group needs to hear the truths from this week's sermon?

Prayer

Pray for each other. Pray for our church and for others gathering in D-groups. Pray for specific needs shared among your members.