

LOVING, CARING, SERVING RELATIONSHIPS DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 TIMOTHY 5:1-15, 6:1-2

1 **Paul wrote 1 Timothy so that we would know how to live as members of the household of God.** What are some of the implications of being in a familial relationship with other Christians in a church?

⚙️ *Read 1 Tim. 5:1-2. How do those implications apply to offering correction to someone? Think of ways that are clear, but also affirm the other person as a member of God's family?*

⚙️ *How can young singles practically uphold Paul's admonition to treat one another as siblings with all purity?*

2 **What does this passage's instruction about caring for widows reveal about the heart and character of God?** What do you know about widows during that time?

♥️ *What does this tell us about His priorities and attributes? See Psalm 68:5, Deuteronomy 10:17-18, James 1:27.*

3 **Do you know any widows in the church?** How can we assure they are being properly cared for?

🗣️ *In a culture and economic system where disability and life insurance are available, along with 401(k)s, nursing homes and assisted living centers, what responsibility should the church have towards widows?*

💡 *How could the principles of 1 Timothy 5 still relate to the church today when all these safety nets are in place?*

4 **1 Timothy 5, Paul provides very practical instruction to bring clarity to what can sometimes be a complex topic—how should the church care for those in need.** For those who have needs, what is the balance between asking for help from the church but not becoming an unnecessary drain on the church’s resources?

⚙️ *How do Paul’s stipulations for widows needing assistance help us understand how to handle requests for care that come to the church?*

💬 *How might young widows today be susceptible to the same temptations as in Paul’s day – laziness and gossip? Are there other temptations for widows that are specific to modern times?*

5 **What can you do to show Christian love to your parents or grandparents and “render some return” as it says in 1 Timothy 5?**

💬 *Do government or church programs relieve children of their responsibilities to care for their parents? Why or why not?*

6 **In what specific ways can you honor your employer this week?** How might that glorify God and advance the gospel? How does Jesus’ example of servanthood help us in our service.