

# sermon notes

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Pastor Tony Caffey, Verse By Verse Fellowship

Aug 27, 2023 | "Honor and Care in the Church Family" | **1 Timothy 5:1-16**

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1. \_\_\_\_\_ church folk like family (5:1-2)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ the destitute members of your church family (5:3-8)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_, and don't \_\_\_\_\_, the destitute members of your church family (5:9-16)

## Questions for Further Application of God's Word:

### GO DEEPER

Read 1 Timothy 5:1-2. How does Paul want Timothy to conduct himself in the church? What does this passage communicate about the church as a family? How should a church family interact with each other? How should a church family take care of one another and provide for its struggling members?

Read 1 Timothy 5:3-16. Why does the care for widows fall upon relatives first and then the church body? What are some ways that you can "make some return" to your parents for what they've done for you (5:4)? Why is this pleasing in the sight of God?

For more on this topic, see the article "Caring for Widows" by R.C. Sproul: <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/caring-widows>

Why does Paul denounce so strongly a person in the church who doesn't provide for his relatives, especially the members of his household (5:8)? What does this kind of scenario communicate about the church to the outside world?

### GET PERSONAL

What are some ways that you can develop close-knit relationships within your church family? Paul tells Timothy to encourage, but don't rebuke (i.e. castigate harshly), others in the church. Why is it important for the church body to communicate respectfully towards one another? If we do need to confront sin in each other's lives, how should that take place (see Matt 18:15-18; Rom 16:17-18; Gal 6:1; Titus 3:10; Jas 5:19-20)?

### PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Are you prepared to provide for your parents as they age? What does that look like in our twenty-first century world? How might parents communicate their needs (physical, financial, relational) to their children as they age?

As a church, how might you provide for widows and for others who are destitute and in need? How do we avoid the danger of enabling bad habits when we provide benevolence (e.g. supporting someone's idleness or self-indulgence)?

### ADVANCED QUESTION

In 1 Timothy 5:1, Paul tells Timothy to not rebuke an older man. But in 2 Timothy 4:2, he tells him, "Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching." Also in 1 Timothy 5:19, he tells Timothy to rebuke publicly those who are persistent in sin (see also Prov 17:20; 27:5; 28:23; Titus 1:13; 2:15; see also Jesus's words in Luke 17:3-4). How do we reconcile these statements in these passages? Should an elder/pastor rebuke people in the congregation or not?