

# 1 Timothy

## CHAPTER 5:1-16

### Lesson 10

How should we, as believers, relate to different groups of people in the church? In this section of 1 Timothy 5, Paul addresses our behavior towards the older and younger men, older and younger women, and older and younger widows. It is profitable that we know both how we are to be and how to conduct ourselves as God would have us. May this lesson bring you to a new understanding of your role toward each person in the church.

### Read 1 Timothy 5:1-16

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheet (the last page of this homework) and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they are about?
2. Key words help us to better understand the verses. We have listed below key words. Mark each one in a distinctive way (either with a symbol, highlighting, or some form of boxing, circling, or underlining). Mark each of the key words each time they are used in the text. Remember to mark any personal pronouns that refer to *God* (the Father), *Jesus*, and *Paul*  
Key Words: *God, Jesus, Paul, command, faith, and let*
3. The contrasting word, *but*, is used 6 times in this section of 1 Timothy 5. Mark the word. Record what is being contrasted in each of the six instances.

- a. Share one of the contrasts that you would like to know more about.

## **Read 1 Timothy 5:1,2**

1. These verses remind us of the respect we are to show to the men and women of the church. Using your own words, record how each are to be treated:

*Older men*

*Younger men*

*Older women*

*Younger women*

2. Consider the following verses and explain how they give understanding to Paul's instructions to Timothy.

Galatians 6:1

1 Peter 5:5

Matthew 12:46-50

3. How would obedience to honoring one another as specified in 1 Timothy 5:1,2 affect the church?

## Read 1 Timothy 5:3-10

1. This section of our lesson addresses *widows*. It speaks of the responsibility of the *widow*, the family of the *widow*, and the church. What is the responsibility of the:

*widow* (verses 4,5,6,7,9,10)

family of the *widow* (verse 8,16)

church (verses 3, 9, 16)

2. Note and define the word *honor* as it is used in verse 3.
3. After reading these verses, what do you think Paul would have Timothy and the church understand about caring for *widows*?
4. Lest we consider these verses harsh, refresh your memory regarding God's heart for the *widow* using the following verses: (Note: there are 93 verses in the Bible commanding that *widows* not be neglected.)

Deuteronomy 10:18

Psalm 146:9

Malachi 3:5

James 1:27

a. What is your impression of God's heart for the *widow*?

1.) In what practical ways can you reflect His heart?

### **Read 1 Timothy 5:11-15**

1. Paul had some additional advice regarding *younger widows*. Using verses 11-13, list his concerns.

2. Note the phrase, *desire to marry*, in verse 11. Paul was not condemning *young widows* for desiring marriage, but rather the shift of focus from the Lord and the compromising that can occur when *marriage* becomes a priority. Explain Paul's concerns as you would to a *young widow*.

3. Define the word *idle* as it is used in verse 13.

a. Ponder this word as it relates to your own life. What warnings do you need to heed?

4. Rather than become responsibilities of the church, what does verse 14 call *young widows* to do?

- a. Consider Paul's declaration about marriage and singleness in 1 Corinthians 7:32,33. Although Paul encouraged *young widows* to marry in 1 Timothy, what is your understanding of his desire for their priorities?

5. Record the last phrase of 1 Timothy 5:15.

- a. What advantages might the enemy, Satan, gain from the behaviors mentioned in 1 Timothy 5:11-13?

1.) It would be easy to view verse 15 as a new thought. Yet, it continues the last thought of verse 14. What are some ways a *young widow* could *turn aside after Satan*?

2.) This is not a statement about those who would deceive the church, but a statement about *young widows* who have been drawn away from godly living. Most would be offended if they were confronted with this possibility. How would you come alongside a young widow and warn her?

### **Read 1 Timothy 5:16**

1. The 1 Timothy 5:16 admonition to family and the church was included in Question #1 in 1 Timothy 5:3-10. Using synonyms, define the word *relieve*.

- a. List some antonyms of the word *relieve*.

2. What are some practical ways believers can *relieve* a *widow*?
3. In what ways is verse 16 a good summary statement regarding the responsibilities we have toward *widows*?

### **Review 1 Timothy 5:1-16**

1. In what ways were you personally challenged by this lesson?
2. Paul was not only concerned about the *widows* being cared for; he was concerned about their witness. In what way might our sins and good deeds precede us and follow us in life?

*in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works;  
in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility,  
- Titus 2:7*

**1 Timothy 5:1-16**  
**Observation Worksheet**

Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, <sup>2</sup> older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, with all purity. <sup>3</sup> Honor widows who are really widows. <sup>4</sup> But if any widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety at home and to repay their parents; for this is good and acceptable before God. <sup>5</sup> Now she who is really a widow, and left alone, trusts in God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day. <sup>6</sup> But she who lives in pleasure is dead while she lives. <sup>7</sup> And these things command, that they may be blameless. <sup>8</sup> But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. <sup>9</sup> Do not let a widow under sixty years old be taken into the number, and not unless she has been the wife of one man, <sup>10</sup> well reported for good works: if she has brought up children, if she has lodged strangers, if she has washed the saints' feet, if she has relieved the afflicted, if she has diligently followed every good work. <sup>11</sup> But refuse the younger widows; for when they have begun to grow wanton against Christ, they desire to marry, <sup>12</sup> having condemnation because they have cast off their first faith. <sup>13</sup> And besides they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house, and not only idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying things which they ought not. <sup>14</sup> Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully. <sup>15</sup> For some have already turned aside after Satan. <sup>16</sup> If any believing man or woman has widows, let them relieve them, and do not let the church be burdened, that it may relieve those who are really widows.