



SUNDAY EVENING

AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Title: God's House Rules

Passage: 1 Timothy 5:1-8

Speaker: Pastor Dan Preston

Introduction: Every healthy family has rules because every healthy family has relationships worth protecting. In 1 Timothy 5, Paul reminds Timothy that the church is more than an organization. It is the family of God. Because we have one heavenly Father, the way we speak to, care for, and treat one another matters. Healthy churches happen when God's people learn to live together as the family He intended them to be.

I. We Honor One Another (Verses 1-2)

The people sitting in the pews were not merely members of a congregation. They were members of a family.

Timothy wasn't pastoring an organization. He was shepherding God's household.

One of the quickest ways to change the atmosphere of a church is to change the way we see one another.

We live in a culture where people have become very good at attending church without truly belonging to one another.

If we'll begin seeing one another the way Paul did, it will transform the way we speak, the way we serve, the way we forgive, and the way we love.



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II. We Care for One Another (Verses 3-6)

If the first house rule teaches us how we are to honor one another, the second teaches us what we do when someone in the family is hurting.

God has always had a special concern for those who are hurting, lonely, and vulnerable.

Healthy churches don't simply celebrate the strongest among them; they look after those who are struggling.

Paul reminds us that people should never feel forgotten in the family of God.

Christianity is not merely a set of beliefs we profess. It is a faith that changes the way we live, especially toward those whom God has placed closest to us.

III. We Take Responsibility for One Another (Verses 7-8)

Love is more than something we say; love accepts responsibility.

Christianity is not merely a set of beliefs we profess. It is a faith that changes the way we live.

The world often views aging parents as an obligation, but the Christian should view them as an opportunity to return a lifetime of love.

We realize that many of the blessings we enjoyed came because someone else willingly carried the responsibility. Paul says that when the opportunity comes, God's people should gladly do the same.

Jesus Christ willingly bore our sin upon the cross, paid our debt in full, and offered us forgiveness and eternal life through His sacrifice. That is what love does. Love takes responsibility.



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Conclusion: We're reminded that God never intended the Christian life to be lived alone. Through the gospel, He has not only forgiven our sins but has brought us into His family. The church is more than a building or an organization; it is a family of believers who love, encourage, and care for one another.



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