

**BOLD: Care for the Widows**  
**1 Timothy 5:1-16**

**SUPPORT SCRIPTURE:**

**Exodus 22:22-24 (NIV):** <sup>22</sup> “Do not take advantage of the widow or the fatherless. <sup>23</sup> If you do and they cry out to me, I will certainly hear their cry. <sup>24</sup> My anger will be aroused, and I will kill you with the sword; your wives will become widows and your children fatherless.”

**You are not blessed because God loves you more.  
You are blessed so that God can use you more.**

**SUPPORT SCRIPTURE:**

**Luke 7:12-15 (NIV):** <sup>12</sup> As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. <sup>13</sup> When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, “Don’t cry.” <sup>14</sup> Then he went up and touched the bier they were carrying him on, and the bearers stood still. He said, “Young man, I say to you, get up!” <sup>15</sup> The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother

**MAIN SCRIPTURE:**

**1 Timothy 5:1-2 (NIV):** Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but exhort him as if he were your father. Treat younger men as brothers, <sup>2</sup> older women as mothers, and younger women as sisters, with absolute purity.

**“purity” = “chastity”**

**MAIN SCRIPTURE:**

**1 Timothy 5:3-8 (NIV):** <sup>3</sup> Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. <sup>4</sup> But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God. <sup>5</sup> The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. <sup>6</sup> But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. <sup>7</sup> Give the people these instructions, so that no one may be open to blame. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

**SUPPORT SCRIPTURE:**

**Acts 6:3-4 (NIV):** “We will turn this responsibility over to them <sup>4</sup> and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

**MAIN POINT:**                      **Take care of the widows.**

**MAIN SCRIPTURE:**

**1 Timothy 5:9-10 (NIV):** <sup>9</sup> No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband, <sup>10</sup> and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the Lord’s people, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds.

**Literally – “a one-man woman”**

- Qualifications:**
- 1. Need**
  - 2. Age**
  - 3. Faithfulness**

**MAIN POINT:**                   **Take care of the widows.**

**MAIN SCRIPTURE:**

**1 Timothy 5:11-13 (NIV):** <sup>11</sup> As for younger widows, do not put them on such a list. For when their sensual desires overcome their dedication to Christ, they want to marry. <sup>12</sup> Thus they bring judgment on themselves, because they have broken their first pledge. <sup>13</sup> Besides, they get into the habit of being idle and going about from house to house. And not only do they become idlers, but also busybodies who talk nonsense, saying things they ought not to.

**MAIN POINT:**                   **Take care of the widows.**

**MAIN SCRIPTURE:**

**1 Timothy 5:14-16 (NIV):** <sup>14</sup> So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander. <sup>15</sup> Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan. <sup>16</sup> If any woman who is a believer has widows in her care, she should continue to help them and not let the church be burdened with them, so that the church can help those widows who are really in need.

**MAIN POINT:**                   **Take care of the widows.**

**How are you caring for the least of these?**