

# “Relationships & Responsibilities”

## 1<sup>st</sup> TIMOTHY Chapter 5

### I) Family Matters (v1-16)

(v1-2) Church is a **FAMILY**, fathers-mothers-brothers-sisters.

(v3-7) **What about the care of WIDOWS?** **HONOR** real widows- the word **honor** means “to show respect or care, to support, to treat graciously.” Real widows with children or grandchildren should be taken care of by their family. (v5) **The life of a godly widow – She TRUSTS God, praying night and day. (i.e. Anna – Luke 2:36-38)** (v6) Warnings for the ungodly widow - The ungodly widow who lives for pleasure, don’t support her. The Greek word for pleasure is *spatalaoo*, it properly means to live in luxury, voluptuously, immorally, to indulge freely in eating and drinking; to yield to the indulgence of the appetites. This widow is spiritually dead and unregenerate. (v7) Teach these issues to bring them to a place of blamelessness.

(v8) **Rebuke the LAZY man** - A man who doesn’t work and provide for his family has denied the faith and is worst than an unbeliever. (cf. – James 2:14-26).

**Warnings from Wisdom’s Work Ethic:**

- 1- **Beware of LAZINESS**- Prov 24:33-34 – *A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest; so shall your poverty come like a prowler, and your need like an armed man.*
  - 2- **Beware of SELFISHNESS & FOOLISHNESS** - Prov 21:13, 17 -*Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor will also cry himself and not be heard. . . He who loves pleasure will be a poor man; he who loves wine and oil will not be rich.*
  - 3- **Beware of PRIDE** - Prov 29:23 - *A man’s pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor.*
  - 4- **Be EXCELLENT** - Prov 22:29 - *Do you see a man who excels in his work? He will stand before kings; he will not stand before unknown men.*
  - 5- **Be WISE** - Prov 24:3-4- *Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; by knowledge the rooms are filled with all precious and pleasant riches.*
- (v9-10) **Qualifications of a legitimate widow to be taken care of by the CHURCH** – If the widow has means to take care of herself and no family then the church should take care of her if: (1) She’s over 60 years old; (v2) the wife of one man (It does not exclude women who have been married more than once, but it refers to a woman totally devoted and faithful to her husband.) (3) Raised children; (4) Lodged strangers (Christians traveling through doing the work of ministry); (5) Served the church (i.e. - involved in ministry); (6) Helped the hurting; (7) Followed every good work.
- (v11-13) **Ungodly young widows** - *cast off their first faith* - In classical Gr., “faith” could also mean “pledge,” that is to serve the Lord and the body of Christ.
- (v14-16) **Roles of young women; the reality of ungodly widows; and the responsibilities of men and women regarding their elderly widows.**

### II) Principles for Pastors (v17-25)

(v17-18) **“elders”** – Overseer, Pastor. One who **LABORS** is to “work to the point of fatigue or exhaustion.” The Greek word stresses the effort behind the work more than the amount of work. **Word and doctrine** - Or better, “preaching and teaching!”

(v19) **Rules regarding ACCUSATIONS** – Must be substantiated by 2 or 3 witnesses.

(v20) **REBUKE** publicly those who are not willing to turn from sinful practices.

(v21) Handle all areas of ministry without prejudice or **PARTIALITY**.

(v22) **RAISE** up leaders slowly, know their calling, observe their gifting, watch their fruit

(0, 30, 60, 100 fold). Don’t compromise, even if others in leadership may be compromising.

(v23) Stay **HEALTHY!**

(v24-25) Time will tell the life of the godly and ungodly; let’s **GO FOR GOD** in these **LAST DAYS!**