I TIMOTHY 5:1-16

Review...

- The good Servant 10 commands...
 - o The need to LEAD command the church / the need to TEACH the Word of God...
 - o Do not DESPISE youth / be an EXAMPLE in word / actions / love / spirit / faith / purity!
 - o FOCUS on reading the Word / interpreting / and applying it...
 - o USE the gift that God has given / MEDITATE and GIVE yourself to these things...
 - o Take HEED be careful not to fall in the temptation or sin / CONTINUE in the Word of God!

How to treat people in the church... (4 Points)

- 1^{ST} We are a family... vs. 1-2
 - o Paul now moves on to the final of four topics...
 - He has given Timothy three lessons Teach the Word / Grace / Prayer...
 - He has defined three roles Women / Pastors / Deacons...
 - He showed exhorted Timothy on the need to DEFEND the FAITH!
 - He now spends chapter 5-6 talking about relationship within the church...
 - It should come as no surprise the church is made up of a DIVERSITY of people...
 - There are old people / young people men / women married / single rich / poor...
 - Jesus came to save people from all walks of life and all of them are in His church...
 - And his desire is that we all come together in UNITY as a FAMILY!
 - Because only when we have UNITY are we an example of Jesus to a LOST world!
 - John 17:21 "That they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe You sent Me."
 - o 1st OLDER MEN like fathers... vs. 1
 - OLDER MAN *Presbyteros* in context referring to ELDERLY men in the church...
 - It seems we always tend to think of OLDER MEN as people who are older than we are...
 - No matter how old I get I never think I am old old is people older than I am!
 - The typical definition for OLDER MAN is those who have already raised their children...
 - In other words if they have grandchildren then chances they are an OLDER MAN!
 - Do not REBUKE...
 - REBUKE only here NT to strike or beat upon figuratively with our words...
 - This does NOT mean we are to IGNORE the sin of others!
 - There is a tendency in our culture to avoid confrontation...
 - If someone does something wrong the accepted response it to IGNORE it / them...
 - As if somehow time will miraculously make everything OK!
 - Sin is devastating if we refuse to repent of our sin it will harden our hearts...
 - The danger is we end up rejecting God prefer to live on in our sin **Hebrews 3:13**
 - If there is sin there MUST be correction caring for someone does not mean ignoring sin!
 - Sin destroys lives how loving is it to let someone destroy themselves!
 - **Proverbs 27:6** -"Faithful are the wounds of a friend..."
 - EXHORT them like a Father...
 - EXHORT *parakaleō* we are to come alongside them like we would our own Dad!
 - When I was growing up you never talked back to your dad...
 - Even if he was wrong you were very careful how told him!
 - If we are not careful rather than helping an OLDER MAN we will offend them...

- Not that we do not CONFRONT sin but we do it respectfully!
- o 2nd YOUNGER MEN like bothers... vs. 1
 - YOUNGER MEN *neos* meaning newborn or youthful possibly referring to their salvation...
 - It is easy to dismiss the YOUNGER MEN in the church think they do not know anything!
 - But recall Paul commanded do NOT despise youth I Timothy 4:12
 - We are to treat the YOUNGER MEN as brothers / equals...
 - What they lack in experience they often make up for in passion and excitement...
 - And the YOUNGER MEN might just surprise us with wisdom God has given to them!
- o 3rd OLDER WOMEN like mothers... vs. 2
 - OLDER WOMEN *Presbyteras* in context referring to ELDERLY women in the church...
 - Now you might ask who qualifies as an OLDER WOMAN...
 - The simple answer is I would rather not say or even ask...
 - Because if you ever tell a woman she is old you may not live to regret it!
 - Treat them as MOTHERS...
 - Just as with the MEN we should ALWAYS show respect to the OLDER WOMEN...
 - We are to TREAT them like we would our own MOTHER...
 - What does the Bible say about how we are to TREAT our MOTHER...
 - Exodus 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long..."
 - I have noted more and more young people today think they know it all...
 - They have GOOGLE and YOUTUBE and believe KNOWLEDGE gives them all the answers...
 - But KNOWLEDGE and WISDOM are NOT the same WISDOM comes with experience!
 - KNOLEDGE says fire is hot WISDOM says it is a good idea NOT to touch it!
 - We are to HONOR the OLDER WOMEN in the church because they have WISDOM...
 - Those who have lived more years on this earth have learned a thing or two...
 - We are WISE to listen to and learn from their experience!
- o 4th YOUNGER WOMEN like sisters...vs. 2
 - YOUNGER WOMEN neoteras referring to the young ladies / possibly new believers...
 - Paul here specifically gives the command to interact with them in ALL PURITY...
 - It would seem CONTEXT here is referring to avoiding sexual sin!
 - PURITY from the root word for HOLY!
 - **I Thessalonians 4:3** "This is the will of God, your [holiness]... that you should abstain from sexual immorality..."
 - Men are NOT to treat the young ladies in the church in a disrespectful manner...
 - Guard their eyes NOT look at women in a lustful way Matthew 5:28
 - Guard their actions NOT get involved just to get close to the YOUNGER LADIES...
 - Go to church with a motive is to try and get a date not to serve the Lord...
 - Instead treat the YOUNGER WOMEN as sisters with ALL PURITY no ulterior motives!
- 2^{ND} Widows in the church... vs. 3/5-7/9-10
 - o 1st WIDOWS... vs. 3
 - WIDOWS used 8x just in this passage a woman who has lost her husband...
 - The Bible has quite a LOT to say about WIDOWS!
 - Deuteronomy 10:18 God loves WIDOWS and makes sure they receive justice...
 - Deuteronomy 24:19 God provided for WIDOWS part of the harvest was left for them...
 - Matthew 23:14 God judged the religious leaders for stealing from the WIDOWS ...
 - Mark 12:43 A WIDOW gave more to the Lord mite more than all rulers of Israel...
 - Acts 6:1 The first church made sure to provide for the needs of the WIDOWS ...
 - James 1:27 Pure religion is visiting the orphans and WIDOWS!

- The point simply being the Lord cares about the widows in the church...
- So here Paul is going to give instruction for how to take care of widows!
- o 2nd HONOR those who are REALLY widows... vs. 3 / 5-7
 - HONOR (*present imperative*) *timao* to give value or importance...
 - Paul is commanding financial provision HONORING them by providing for them!
 - NOTE only those who are REALLY widows meaning not all widows are eligible...
 - You would assume there would only be ONE definition death of a husband...
 - But the church in ONLY to provide for a TRUE widow defined by FIVE things!
 - 1 LEFT ALONE...
 - LEFT ALONE (perfect passive) monos a TRUE widow is solitary or forsaken...
 - This is NOT speaking of divorce (passive) but someone who has LOST her family...
 - Meaning she has no family children or grandchildren to take care of her!
 - Paul will go into more detail on this in verses 4 and 8!
 - 2 TRUSTS in God…
 - TRUST (perfect) a TRUE widow puts her HOPE in Jesus...
 - A true widow is one who always trust in the Lord to take care of her...
 - In other words she is not always ASKING for the church to help her...
 - She does not walk around in rags to show people how poor she is...
 - Instead her confidence is in the Lord and she trusts in Him to provide!
 - 3 CONTINUES in PRAYER night and day...
 - CONTINUES (present indicative) prosmenō to ABIDE in constantly be doing...
 - SUPPLICATIONS praying for the needs of others...
 - PRAYERS 37x in NT having a conversation with God...
 - A TRUE widow is one who constantly takes the time to pray to the Lord!
 - An older widow does not have a lot to offer practically to the church...
 - She is not going to climb up on a ladder and paint the church...
 - She does not have a lot of money to give to help provide for others...
 - But what she can do is dedicate herself to praying for the saints!
 - My grandmother was a widow and she lived with my family since I was a baby...
 - Every day she would set aside time to pray for her grandkids / for the church...
 - One reason why God has blessed my life is the prayers of my grandma!
 - 4 Does NOT live for pleasure...
 - PLEASURE 2x in NT to desire to live in luxury...
 - The church is NOT to help a widow who lives for pleasure things of this world...
 - She is wasting her time she is spiritually dead she is not a TRUE widow...
 - A TRUE widow dedicates her life to serving the Lord following God!
 - If we only live for momentary pleasure we are spiritually dead we miss out on TRUE life...
 - God created for an incredible purpose to know Him **Deuteronomy 6:4-5**
 - If we settle for just food / sleep / pleasure we miss out on the true purpose of life!
 - 5 BLAMELESS before the Lord…
 - Paul commanded parangellō these things so the WIDOWS may be (*subjunctive*) ...
 - BLAMELESS 3x in NT does not mean perfect but that she cannot be accused!
 - A widow who is ALONE / TRUSTS in the Lord / night and day PRAYS to the Lord...
 - A widow who does NOT live for this world will be BLAMELESS before the Lord...
 - And that kind of a widow is someone the church should take care of!
- o 3rd PROVIDING for widows... vs. 9-10
 - Let NOT a widow be...
 - TAKEN INTO THE NUMNBER only here NT put on the list / enrolled...

- Having DEFINED who was a REAL widow...
- Paul three gives additional QUALIFICATIONS who can be supported as a widow!
- If you want to receive support from the government you first have to qualify...
- In the same way God gave qualifications for receiving support from the church...
- A check off list for TRUE widows to see if they could receive help from the church!
- 1 Under 60 years old…
 - A qualified widow could not by under the age of 60...
 - God did not want any YOUNGER WOMEN to be provided for by the church...
 - The reason for that we will look at more in verse 11-16...
 - The good news is the Bible says that anyone under 60 is still young!
- 2 Wife of ONE man...
 - A qualified widow was someone who was married to ONE man...
 - That does not mean that she could not have been married more than once!
 - The famous Christian author Elizabeth Eliot was married 3 times...
 - Her first husband was killed by natives in Ecuador / the second died of cancer...
 - But she was certainly a godly woman deserving of the care of the church!
 - It means she had a husband a widow by definition was at one time married...
 - Meaning a woman who was never married does not qualify...
 - The likely reason is a girl who never married learned to take care of herself...
 - But a married woman was used to be taken care of by her husband...
 - And with his passing she is ill-prepared to provide without his help!
- 3 Reported for GOOD WORKS…
 - REPORTED *martyreō* her testimony reveals GOOD *kalos* (*external*) WORKS...
 - A qualified widow must be known everyone by her actions seen in five ways!
 - NOTE there are five apparent IF question all first class should be SINCE!
 - 1 SINCE she brought up her own children presumably to love and follow the Lord...
 - 2 SINCE she lodged strangers provided for those who were in need...
 - 3 SINCE she washed the feet of the saints she served in the church helping out...
 - 4 SINCE she relieved the afflicted visited those who were in the hospital...
 - 5 SINCE she has diligently followed every GOOD agathos (internal) work...
 - Then because of her heart to be a blessing the church will want to bless her!
 - **Acts 9** Tabitha presumably a widow was always serving in the church...
 - She is only woman in the Bible who is given the title a disciple of Jesus...
 - She did many Good works faithfully served the saints there in Joppa...
 - Helping out the poor she even knitted clothes for all the women...
 - The result was Tabitha got sick (died) the church was willing to do EVERYTING for her!
 - We often look for others to take care of our needs / but there is no connection...
 - It is ONLY when we care for others that they then in turn want to care for us!
- 3^{rd} The responsibility of family... vs. 4/8
 - o 1^{st} If any WIDOW has children / or grandchildren (any descendant) ... vs. 8
 - Let them learn (present imperative) PIETY at home...
 - PIETY 2x in NT meaning to show reverence or RESPECT...
 - How do they show RESPECT by REPAYING their parents!
 - It is the responsibility of the kids / grandkids to take care of their parents...
 - When they grow old and need help we are to provide for them!
 - We are commanded to take care of them because we owe them...
 - Mom spend the better part of 20+ years taking care of all our needs...

- Changing our diapers when you are young / cooking / and cleaning our clothes...
- The very least we can do is take care of them when they grow old!
- This is GOOD *kalos* and acceptable before God...
 - When my mother passed away leaving my father a widower...
 - There was discussion about putting him into a nursing home...
 - Instead he came and lived here with us we are commanded to care for their parents!
 - We are to care for our parents because it pleases God...
 - The fifth command of God Honor your Father and Mother Exodus 20:12
 - Part of honoring our father and mother includes caring for them when older!
- o 2nd If anyone does NOT provide... vs. 8
 - Children who do not provide (*present*) for their parents...
 - Have DENIED (perfect indicative) the FAITH their actions show they do NOT know Jesus...
 - Are WORSE than an UNBELIEVER speaking of their moral character!
 - People who do NOT know Jesus take care of their aging parents...
 - How much more should we are believers take care of our Dad and Moms...
 - If we ignore our parents what kind of witness to the world can we be!
 - People always seem to have an excuse why they cannot help...
 - Mark 10:11-12 "The Pharisees said it is all right for people to say to their parents, 'I cannot help you. For I have vowed to give to God what I could have given to you."
 - Rather than taking care of their parents by providing for them...
 - The religious leaders taught people could instead give the money to God...
 - If it was given to the church then they had no obligation to their parents!
 - Jesus rebuked them because it voided the command of God Mark 15:6
 - There is no excuse not to take care of family...
 - We cannot say we have no money because God will provide for our needs...
 - We cannot say they do not deserve our help we owe them our lives...
 - Bottom line as believers in Jesus we MUST take care of our parents!
- **4**TH Younger widows... vs. **11-16**
 - o YOUNGER widows... vs. 11
 - Paul concludes his instructions by discussing YOUNGER WIDOWS (under 60) ...
 - They were NOT to be included in the support of the church four reasons!
 - o 1st They begin to grow WANTON... vs. 11-12
 - WATON (subjunctive) against Christ only here NT to desire the intimacy of marriage...
 - They will get married and be CONDEMNED because they cast off their first FAITH!
 - Being a WIDOW supported by the church is a commitment to WORK for Jesus!
 - But YOUNG WIDOWS still have the desire for a house / a family / child...
 - So rather than serving the Lord / praying for the saints...
 - They will grow rebellious and bitter towards the church perhaps even leave the faith!
 - o 2^{nd} They LEARN to be IDLE... vs. 13
 - LEARN $manthan\bar{o}$ to learn by experience and practice / IDLE to be lazy...
 - Young widows may not use their time wisely...
 - If the church supports a young widow it means she will NOT have to work...
 - The result will be she will have too much time on her hands!
 - She will WANDER from house to house being GOSSIPS and BUSYBODIES...
 - GOSSIPS only here NT doing silly things babbling talking when they should not...
 - BUSYBODIES 2x in NT busy about unimportant things ignoring the important ones!

- **II Thessalonians 3:11** "Some of you are living idle lives, refusing to work and wasting time meddling in other people's business..."
- Rather than serving the Lord she might wander around and become the church gossip!
- o 3^{rd} THEREFORE I desire the YONGER WIDOWS marry... vs. 14-15
 - There was no reason for them to remain WIDOWS they should remarry...
 - Have children because they still long to have a family...
 - Manage the house only here NT employed as the manager of the household...
 - So they would be busy rather than having too much time on their hands!
 - There is a stigma in the culture that says a widow should not remarry...
 - But God never intended us to be alone in this life it is normal to want a husband...
 - If a widow is under the age of 60 the Bible says they should remarry in the Lord!
 - I Corinthians 7:39 "If her husband dies, she is free to remarry... in the Lord."
 - Give no opportunity to the ADVERSARY...
 - THE ADVERSARY satan who would like to bring reproach against the church...
 - Some YOUNG WIDOWS had already turned aside after him...
 - The implication is they became GOSSIPS and BUSYBODIES causing division!
- o 4th The church can support TRUE widows... vs. 16
 - If any believing family has a WIDOW let them provide (*imperative*) of her...
 - So that the church has the resources to take care of the TRUE older widows!
 - The point of which is simple we are called to CARE for ONE ANOTHER...
 - If we have FAMILY that needs help we are to CARE for them...
 - If someone in the church has no one to help then we are their FAMILY!