

## 1 Timothy

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### Lesson 5: 1 Timothy 5

Most pastors go to seminary for formal training before becoming the pastor of a church. However, no seminary can fully prepare a pastor for every situation he will face in the church. Timothy was a young pastor in Ephesus who needed more training and instruction in his ministry. Paul gave him instruction on how to handle certain matters in the church, namely, respecting the elderly in the church, how to care for widows, and the respect of elders. These matters are still very applicable for the church today. Let's dive in and see what instruction Paul gives to Timothy about these matters in the church.

➤ **Read 1 Timothy 5:1–2**

1. In verse 1, what four age groups does Paul identify?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. In verses 1–2, what illustration does Paul give when referring to members in the church?

➤ **Read 1 Timothy 5:3–8**

3. How is the church supposed to treat the widows in the church?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. In verse 4, what is the responsibility of the children of widows?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. In verse 5, how does Paul describe a “true” widow?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. In verse 6, how does Paul describe the spiritually “dead” widow?

7. In verse 7, what is Paul instructing Timothy to teach? Why?

8. In verse 8, who is responsible for taking care of widows?

9. How does Paul describe those who won't provide for their own family?

**Application:** What does care for widows in the church reflect to the watching world?

➤ **Read 1 Timothy 5:9–16**

10. In verses 9–10, what are the requirements for a widow to be put on the church's care list?

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|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |

11. According to verses 11–12, why must Timothy refuse to put younger widows on the list?

12. In verse 13, what does Paul say would be the temptations for younger widows if they were put on the list for full church support?

13. What does Paul want younger widows to do in verse 14–15?

14. Although Paul's instructions in verse 14 are for aimed at young widows, what does this verse tell wives about their role in God's grand design?

**Application:** In what ways have women given into the schemes of the enemy today?

➤ **Read 1 Timothy 5:17–22**

15. According to verse 17, who is worthy of double honor?

**Application:** What current cultural factors, both Christian and secular, discourage pastors from the hard work of preaching and teaching?

16. In verse 19, Paul is protecting the leaders of the church from public criticism. Why does he do this?

17. In verse 20, what does Paul say to do with sinning elders? Why?

18. In verses 21–22, what dangers does Paul highlight when choosing elders?

**Application:** Why is it dangerous to appoint elders out of bias? What happens to churches who appoint unqualified elders?

➤ **Read 1 Timothy 5:23–25**

19. Read 1 Timothy 3:3. Why would Paul need to tell Timothy to drink wine?

20. Read Numbers 32:23. In what ways are this verse and verse 24 similar?

**Application:** What one verse impacted you the most in this lesson? Why?