

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

LOVING WIDOWS | 1 Timothy 5:3-16

WORSHIP

How can your discipleship group start with **worship** today?

WALK

Spend time **understanding** and **applying** God's Word.

1. REVIEW + UNDERSTAND

It's obvious in scripture that God desires for us to care for each other, but in this passage He gives special instruction for the care of widows. Why do you think that widows matter so much to God?

Read 1 Timothy 5:3-16. Some of these words are strong (and some cut against our modern sensibilities). How would you define "widows who are truly widows"? What unique care should be provided there? Does that mean that resources should be held back from "widows who are not truly widows"?

According to Paul, who ought to be the primary support for widows in the church? What could that look like in practice?

Continuing on then, who ought to be the secondary support for widows in the church? What could that look like in practice?

2. ASSESS + APPLY

All clips are available at www.redeemerresources.church/love-for-widows

WATCH CLIP #1:

We are often uncomfortable or uncertain in what to say to those who are hurting and grieving. How does the power of presence cut through that?

What gifts, skills, and resources could you leverage to care for widows (and others) in need? If you have a habit of practicing that kind of care, share a story to encourage others! If you're not, what has kept you from it?

WATCH CLIP #2

People really do care in the crisis, but God's instruction is to care for the long-haul. Why do you think care reduces after the initial wave? What can you, as a disciple of Jesus, do to ensure widows are cared for in the long-term?

We often don't know what to do or say - of we feel like we're going to say something to make it worse (trust us, you won't). How could you listen in such a way as to find opportunities to care? What questions could you ask?

When you connect, call, text, or serve, what can you say to encourage and remind each other of God's goodness? What scriptures come to mind? Consider writing them down somewhere and memorizing them.

What widow comes to mind that you could care for in the coming weeks? How will you live out your faith by doing so?

PRAYERS & APPLICATIONS

Blank space for prayers and applications.

5 DAY READING PLAN

Each day answer the questions: What does it **say**? What does it **mean**? How should I **respond**?

DAY 1
1 Tim. 5:3-8

DAY 2
1 Tim. 5:9-16

DAY 3
Psalm 68:5

DAY 4
James 1:27

DAY 5
Gal. 6:1-7

WORK

How should this message affect how you **serve one another**?

Blank space for work application.

WITNESS

How should this message affect how you **share the Gospel**?

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