

## Ministry to Widows in the Church

1 Timothy 5:3–16 | March 17th–23

### Other Upcoming Events:

- Men's Breakfast: March 23, 8–9:30am
- Young Adults Ultimate League: Wednesday nights, March 27–June 12
- Easter 2024: Good Friday—March 29, 7pm. Easter Services—Saturday, March 30, 5:30pm, or Sunday, March 31, 9 & 11am. **NEW!** Easter Flapjack Feast with Friends (**only** for preschool and elementary kids and their friends), Sunday March 31, 9 & 11am. Register now.
- Men's Conference: April 19 & 20. Registration is open.
- **SAVE THE DATE:** August 23–24: Parenting conference w/Brent and Janet Aucoin.

### Opportunities to Serve ([ccfw.org/theloop](http://ccfw.org/theloop)):

- Fusion 2024. Registration for Fusion 2024 is OPEN! Take advantage of the early bird discount now until April 23rd (applications open until May 7th).
- Get connected and find a place to serve at Christ's Church. For a list of ministries with openings, pick up a green card on one of the kiosks as you exit today, or sign up to serve for current ministry needs on the Loop.
- March of Diapers (We Love our City). Please bring diapers to the bin in the Worship Center foyer. If you want to keep it simple, try ordering from [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com).

**INTRO QUESTION:** Tell an impactful story that you have heard or experienced of someone radically helping the poor/needy.

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Read vs 3–4. What responsibility do children have to aging parents? Have you seen a good example of children caring for aging parents? What are some ways that you can grow in this personally?
2. Reflect on vs 3–4 with verse 8. What are the applications you can make from these verses?
3. Read vs 8, 16, along with James 1:27. Paul's underlying message is for Christians to care for Christians in need inside the family of God. What are some ways that you can serve/care for those in need within our church?
4. James was concerned with Christians who say they have faith, but their faith was worthless without any works. Specifically, they were showing favoritism and not caring for widows and orphans. How can we make sure that we do not fall into the same traps like the pharisees? See Mt 23:1–4, 13–14, 23–24.
5. Read Psalm 10:17–18, 68:5. In Scripture, “widows and orphans” represent the helpless, undefended, and needy. To be without the protection of a husband or parent in biblical times was truly a dire situation. How should we view/treat the helpless, undefended, and needy in the world? See Psalm 82:3; Ex 22:22–23.
6. In what way does a church's care for its widows reflect the character of that church?

7. Verses 9–10 sound confusing until you realize that this is not a prerequisite to be placed on a list to receive help. These are prerequisites for a woman who could disciple/care for younger widows and women. Compare Titus 2:3–5 and this list. Why is it so important to have older women discipling younger in these ways? What are some ways that you can apply these principles to your life?

**GROUP TIME:**

**Prayer:** Pray for someone in your family or within the church who is on your heart right now and share why.

**Personal Practical Application:** Who is someone in your family/church who needs practical assistance? As a life group, consider practical ways you might be helpful to individual family members, neighbors, or someone at the church who has needs.