
INSTRUCTIONS OF GOD IN THE LETTERS FROM PAUL

DEDUCTIVE LESSON FIVE

1 Timothy 5

Day One: Verses 1–16

Read 1 Timothy 5:1–16 and answer the following questions.

1. In verses 1–2, Paul gives Timothy advice about how to treat his congregation. What does he tell Timothy?

2. Verses 3–16 give directions about how to identify and care for true widows. We must remember the culture and circumstances of that day—there were no IRAs or 401K retirement accounts. If a woman's husband died and she had no sons to care for her, her livelihood was in jeopardy. A widow's "social security" was the charity and generosity of the church. In verse 3, Paul tells Timothy to honor true widows. Define honor.

3. What is "good and acceptable before God," according to verse 4?

4. What strong statement is made in verse 8?

5. Verse 8 may seem a little harsh, until we realize that a man's provision and care for his family is a picture of God's care and provision for His church. To deliberately disregard that relationship is to profane God's character. What does Ephesians 5:25–29 tell us about man's relationship with his wife (and by extension, his household)?

6. What qualifications does Paul list for those who would receive the widow's benefits (verses 9–10)?

7. Paul instructed that the younger widows, who could find provision by remarrying, were to be refused the widow's benefit. How was this for their own good?

8. As with many social welfare programs today, giving benefits to those who can fend for themselves often breeds in them idleness and dilutes the benefit for those who truly need it. What does Paul say to summarize this passage in verse 16?

Scripture Memory: Our Scripture Memory verse this week is 1 Timothy 5:1.

"Do not rebuke an older man, but exhort him as a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, with all purity." 1 Timothy 5:1

Day Two: Verses 17–18.

Read 1 Timothy 5:17–18.

1. What is the point of these two verses?

2. It must have been difficult for Paul, as a leader of the church, to write these things because this advice could appear self-serving. Indeed, Paul was accused by some people at Corinth of leeching off of the church, and he gives a strong defense of his behavior in 1 Corinthians 9:1–19. Read through this passage and write down the significant points of Paul's argument.

3. Paul tells Timothy to act without prejudice and partiality. What did James have to say on this subject (James 2:1–4 and 3:16–17)?

4. "Keep yourself pure" (1 Timothy 5:22). Examine what the Psalms say about purity, and write your findings below.

Psalm 12:6

Psalm 18:26

Psalm 19:8

Psalm 24:3–5

Psalm 73:1

5. What did Jesus say in Matthew 5:8?

Scripture Memory: Fill in the missing words from memory.

"Do not _____ an older man, but _____ him as a _____, younger men as _____, older women as _____, younger _____ as sisters, with all _____." — _____ :_____

Day Five: Verses 24–25

Read 1 Timothy 5:24–25.

1. The consequences of our actions, whether good or bad, cannot be avoided. What do these verses say?

Job 4:8

Hosea 10:12

2. It is not our responsibility to make our good works evident to men—only to God. What do the following verses tell us?

Matthew 6:3–6

Psalms 37:5–6

3. Verse 24 says that men’s sins will be judged, whether they have been previously known to others or not. What do you read in Psalm 11:5–7?

4. As Christians, we do not have to fear judgment for our sins, because Jesus bore our sins at the Cross. We will however face a kind of judgment, but it is not unto condemnation. Our works will be tested by fire. And this fire will reveal whether or not our actions had any eternal significance. Read about this in 1 Corinthians 3:9–15 and record your thoughts.

Scripture Memory: Write out the complete Scripture Memory verse below.

" _____

" _____ : _____

Day Six: Personal Application

1. Like the widows of Paul's day, perhaps there is someone you know who cannot subsist on his/her own. "Pure and lasting religion in the sight of God our Father means that we must care for orphans and widows in their troubles, and refuse to let the world corrupt us" (James 1:27 NLT). Spend some time in prayer asking the Lord how you can best practice this pure and lasting religion. Write down any thoughts or ideas that come to mind.

2. "Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine" (1 Timothy 5:17). Is the appreciation of your pastor limited to the month of October (pastor appreciation month)? If so, write down an idea to honor those who labor in the word and doctrine (or to help you remember to do so throughout the year).

3. Ask the Spirit to illuminate areas of prejudice and partiality in your life. Make notes as you deem appropriate.

4. Define purity in your own words. List or describe words or pictures that come to mind when you meditate on the word pure. Ask the Lord to purify the various aspects of your life (heart, home, body, mind, career, relationships, etc.).

5. Think about your works that will be burned up in the fire of judgment, and those that will remain. What things are you wasting your time on?

<p>Scripture Memory: Write out the complete Scripture Memory verse below.</p> <p>" _____ _____ _____ _____</p> <p>" _____ : _____</p>
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Prayer Requests:

Lecture Notes:
