

KEY IDEAS & KEY VERSE

- 1. Widows are some of the most vulnerable and voiceless members of our church family.
- 2. The character of the Church is put on display in how we help its most helpless members, the widows.
- 3. Teaching Elders are worthy of twofold honor: respect and renumeration.

Honor widows who are truly widows. 1 Timothy 5:3

- Share a story about a woman who has walked in front of you like a spiritual mother or alongside you
 like a gospel friend. Include at least one way they have shaped you spiritually.
- Read 1 Timothy 5:3-16. What are some of the potential blessings, burdens, or pitfalls that widows may face?
- Have you ever spent time helping a widow? What did you do?
- What are some of the reasons we don't intentionally include widows in the life of the church?
- Read 1 Timothy 5:17-25. What is one of the most profound lessons you have learned from a teaching elder/pastor?
- What practical way could you extend to them double honor?
- How can we come alongside elders' families with prayer and support instead of gossip and criticism?
- What is the most life-giving word or deed that has encouraged you as you have sought to serve your church?

<u>Thinking Biblically</u>: Share one or two ways that reading chapter five and studying days one—four helps you to think biblically. (See pp. 88-90)

<u>Living Covenantally</u>: Share at least one of your personal reflections from day five and record the reflections of those from your group in your book. (See pp. 90-92)

- Characteristics of the Covenant
- Church Descriptions
- Stop—Look—Listen—Lean

Share your stewardship prayer: Thank You, God, for entrusting me with
Give me the grace to invest it for Your glory and the good of Your Church in the following ways this week:

Record your prayers for your covenant community, church leaders, and personal prayer requests on p. 91 and then pray for one another.

