

1 Timothy: Lessons for the Church – the Pillar of the Truth

Chapter 5: How the Pastor Cares for His People (Part 1)

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Pastor Ray

1. -A pastor's leadership must be authoritative—not authoritarian.
 - Based on trust and respect that is earned (1 Tim. 3:1-7)
 - Using gentle appeals versus harsh rebukes (vv. 1-2)
 - Views the church as a family
 - Older men as fathers, younger men as brothers
 - Older women as mothers, younger women as sisters—with absolute purity (2 Tim. 3:6)
2. -A pastor ensures care ministry occurs to meet genuine needs in the church.
 - Care begins in the family unit (vv. 4,7,16)
 - Children and grandchildren owe a debt of caring to parents and grandparents (who cared for them when they were young)
 - Those who neglect immediate family and relatives: “denied the -faith... worse than an unbeliever”
 - This enables the church to care for those who have no one else to care for them
 - The church cares for those (widows) who are really in need
 - Based on need but not indiscriminate (qualifications listed in vv. 9-10)
 - The “list of widows” and care ministry likely overseen by the deacons (Acts 6:1-7)
 - Younger widows are encouraged to remarry, have children, and manage their homes well
3. -A pastor who leads well deserves honor in the form of appropriate financial compensation.
 - In the same manner that Christians are expected to provide for their own families, the church has a responsibility to give at a level that provides the pastor a salary commensurate with his performance
 - A pastor who leads well and/or has a speaking ministry deserves greater honor in the form of higher compensation (vv. 17-18)
 - As a church grows in size, the need for better leadership grows exponentially
 - Informality replaced with formal processes
 - Administrative load increases
 - More difficult decisions on how to use resources (giving doesn't always increase at the same rate as attendance)
 - To ensure adequate care, pastors must transition from personal care-giving to developing and equipping more lay leadership

Suggested LIFE Group Discussion Questions

- 1) What are the most important qualities in a leader that earn your trust and respect?
- 2) How have you or will have to care for your parents and grandparents?
- 3) Evaluate your giving to the church and, without divulging too much, share the process of how you determine how much to give.