1. **Read verses 1 & 2. In chapter 3 Paul gave an outline of how Timothy was to lead the church and how church members were to act. In chapter 5 Paul showing us ho people in the church should be treated.**
   1. According to verse 1 how are older men to be treated?
   2. How might an older person respond better to encouragement than a strong rebuke?
   3. Could Timothy, as the pastor and leader of this church, be the spiritual leader of older men?
      1. If yes, then why would he not be able to rebuke an older man if they needed to be rebuked?
      2. Read 2 Timothy 4:2. How does Paul instruct us as to how a rebuke should be handled?
   4. Paul speaks about how women (young and old) should be treated.
   5. In the rest of verses 1 & 2 Paul describes how each group of people should be treated. Discuss the consequences when a Pastor/Leader treats people in an improper way or treats people differently, showing favoritism.
      1. What impact does this have on a church?
   6. What are some practical ways to maintain proper relationships with the opposite gender in church or ministry?
2. **In verse 3 through 16 Paul lays out how widows should be treated by the church.**
   1. Read verse 3 - 6. How should the church treat widows?
   2. In verse 3 Paul says to honor those that are really, truly, actual widows. According to these 3 verses what does Paul mean by “truly/really” widows?
   3. In verse 4 Paul says “let them”. Who is he referring to here?
      1. Paul says they should show “piety” in their home. What does this mean?
      2. How should a family treat and care for the widows in their own family?
         1. Why does Paul say they should do this?
         2. Read verse 8. What does this verse tell us about familial responsibilities?
   4. Read verse 5. What kinds of things should a godly widow do?
   5. Who is verse 6 speaking of?
      1. What is Paul saying about the Christian widows? (read James 2:26)
      2. Paul is saying that the church should not support these widows. How should the church body respond to this group of widows? (see 1 Peter 4:10-11)
3. **Read verses 9 & 10. Paul lays out guidelines for a church to follow for supporting widows.**
   1. Why are the qualifications/characteristics in verse 10 important to follow?
   2. Is this a checklist just to get support?
      1. How should their heart be towards this commitment to service?
4. **Read verses 17 & 18. Paul is quoting Deuteronomy 25:4 and Luke 10:7. He is showing how important teaching the scriptures is and the responsibility these Pastors are taking on. Ask yourself these questions:**
   1. What expectations do you put on Pastors?
   2. Are they realistic?
   3. Do you allow pastors room for growth, mistakes?
   4. Have you ever approached a Pastor about your concerns?
   5. Most importantly – What can each of us do this week to show our Pastors that we honor them?