

The Big Picture (verses 1,2)

1. How do the following verses describe the care that should exist between generations.
 - Proverbs 19:13,14
 - 2 Corinthians 12:14
 - Exodus 20:12
2. It seems as if this “providing for” and “honoring of” is lacking in our society. Agree or disagree? Why or why not?
3. These days, what does the “providing for” and “honoring of” look like in your life?

Paul’s Example: Caring For Widows (verses 3-16)

1. Paul uses widows as an example of those who may need caring for. Why do you think Paul uses widows (instead of using older men, younger men, older women, or younger women)?
2. How is caring for widows a good example/reality check of the health of our intergenerational relations?

Older Widows (verses 3-10)

1. What qualifies an older widow to be put on the list? Would you subtract from or add to this list?
2. What seems to be Paul’s underlying concern about the spiritual character of a widow? Why do you think this is so important: for the widow; for the church?
3. These days, how do you see Paul’s command to honor widows being lived out in your life?

Younger Widows (verses 11-16)

1. What seems to be Paul’s main concern about younger widows?
2. Do you think that Paul’s concern is warranted? Why or why not?

Extra Credit

While keeping in mind Paul’s teaching, respond to the following:

1. Church benevolence is no substitute for individual family responsibility. True False
2. The church should teach families how to care for their parents. True False
3. If a family does not help a widow then the church should. True False
4. Getting older and going through the harder things of life does not automatically produce godliness.
True False
5. It is impossible for the church to help everyone who is in need and we should not be expected to.
True False
6. The church should only care for those who meet Paul’s criteria. True False

Thinking about Creekside...

1. What is Creekside’s criteria for helping those in need?
2. On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being horrendous), how do you think we are doing at intergenerational relationships?
3. What would it take to move your score 1 digit to towards a 10?
4. On a scale of 1 to 10 (1 being epic failure), how do you think we are doing at caring for those in need?
5. What would it take to move your score 1 digit towards a 10?