

### **Recap of 6/24/18 (1 Timothy 5:8-10)**

1. Three times in 1 Timothy 5:3-16 Paul lays the responsibility to financially care for widows at the feet of their families (5:4,8,16). A basic principle of Scripture is the necessity and dignity of work; to provide for one's family (2 Thessalonians 3:6-13) and to help others who are in need (Ephesians 4:28).
2. "Failing to try to meet even the basic needs of one's family is denying the faith. Why? Because it directly opposes God's command to love those who are our own. In fact, it is to act worse than an unbeliever, because even pagans have the sense and decency to provide a livelihood for their families....If you work to meet the legitimate needs of your family then you are fulfilling something important that God wants done in the world." (Doug Sherman and William Hendricks).
3. Apparently the Church at Ephesus had a widow's list or roll (a "widow's corps") which received aid from the church and served the church in response. There were three requirements to be put on the widow's roll:
  - a widow had to be at least 60 years old.
  - had to be a "one-man woman," that is, she must have been faithful to her husband.
  - and must be known for her humble, sacrificial service to others.with a reputation for godly living.
4. Dorcas is often seen as one such servant (Acts 9:36-42)
  - "Who makes a local church function well?...The pulse of the church can most often be found among those who quietly work at good deeds and obedient service—people like Dorcas." (Life Lessons from Bible People)
  - "Tabitha [Dorcas] made an enormous impact on here community by 'always doing kind things for others and helping the poor' by making coats and other garments. When she died, the room was filled with mourners....Rather than wishing you had different gifts, faithfully use the gifts God as given you." (One Year NLT Study Bible)