

Christ Church Cathedral  
Dean's Bible Study—Pastoral Epistles: 1 Timothy  
Wednesday, October 1, 2025  
Chapter 5 & 6

## Duties toward Believers

**5** Do not speak harshly to an older man, but speak to him as to a father, to younger men as brothers,<sup>2</sup> to older women as mothers, to younger women as sisters—with absolute purity.

<sup>3</sup>Honor widows who are really widows. <sup>4</sup>If a widow has children or grandchildren, they should first learn their religious duty to their own family and make some repayment to their parents, for this is pleasing in God's sight. <sup>5</sup>The real widow, left alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day, <sup>6</sup>but the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. <sup>7</sup>Give these commands as well, so that they may be above reproach. <sup>8</sup>And whoever does not provide for relatives, and especially for family members, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

<sup>9</sup>Let a widow be put on the list if she is not less than sixty years old and has been married only once; <sup>10</sup>she must be well attested for her good works, as one who has brought up children, shown hospitality, washed the saints' feet, helped the afflicted, and devoted herself to doing good in every way. <sup>11</sup>But refuse to put younger widows on the list, for when their sensual desires alienate them from Christ, they want to marry, <sup>12</sup>and so they incur condemnation for having violated their first pledge. <sup>13</sup>Besides that, they learn to be idle, gadding about from house to house, and they are not merely idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not say. <sup>14</sup>So I would have younger widows marry, bear children, and manage their households, so as to give the adversary no occasion to revile us. <sup>15</sup>For some have already turned away to follow Satan. <sup>16</sup>If any believing woman has relatives who are widows, let her assist them; let the church not be burdened, so that it can assist those who are real widows. <sup>17</sup>Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching, <sup>18</sup>for the scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain" and "The laborer deserves to be paid." <sup>19</sup>Never accept any accusation against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>20</sup>As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest also may stand in fear. <sup>21</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels, I warn you to keep these instructions without prejudice, doing nothing on the basis of partiality. <sup>22</sup>Do not ordain anyone hastily, and do not participate in the sins of others; keep yourself pure.

<sup>23</sup>No longer drink only water, but take a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments.

<sup>24</sup>The sins of some people are conspicuous and precede them to judgment, while the sins of others follow them there. <sup>25</sup>So also good works are conspicuous, and even when they are not, they cannot remain hidden.

**6** Let all who are under the yoke of slavery regard their masters as worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and the teaching may not be blasphemed. <sup>2</sup>Those who have believing masters must not be disrespectful to them on the ground that they are brothers and sisters; rather, they must serve them all the more, since those who benefit by their service are believers and beloved.

## False Teaching and True Riches

Teach and urge these duties. <sup>3</sup> Whoever teaches otherwise and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that is in accordance with godliness <sup>4</sup> is conceited, understanding nothing, and has a morbid craving for controversy and for disputes about words. From these come envy, dissension, slander, base suspicions, <sup>5</sup> and wrangling among those who are depraved in mind and bereft of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. <sup>6</sup> Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, <sup>7</sup> for we brought nothing into the world, so that<sup>[c]</sup> we can take nothing out of it, <sup>8</sup> but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup> But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup> For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

## The Good Fight of Faith

<sup>11</sup> But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. <sup>12</sup> Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup> In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup> to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. <sup>16</sup> It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

<sup>17</sup> As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup> thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

## Personal Instructions and Benediction

<sup>20</sup> Timothy, guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the profane chatter and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge; <sup>21</sup> by professing it some have missed the mark as regards the faith. Grace be with you.