



November 8, 2020
Care for Widows
1 Timothy 5:3-16



CELEBRATION - HOW DID YOU SEE GOD THIS WEEK AS YOU FOLLOWED HIM?



WORD - WHAT DID GOD SAY IN HIS WORD?

Opening Question: Share an experience of when someone advocated for you or empowered you to do something you could not have done on your own.

Pastor Mitch shared a story of how his family was prevented from going to Japan as missionaries because they were Korean. The Alliance church advocated for their family, overturned a policy, and sent them to Japan where his father planted the fastest growing church in Japan. As believers, we are called to care for the marginalized in a way that advocates and empowers them to release the purposes of God in their lives.

Read together: 1 Timothy 5:3-16

Reflect together:

In the ancient world, widows did not have a way to provide for themselves and did not have basic protections. Along with the fatherless and the foreigner, they were among the most vulnerable in society. How does the passage instruct us to care for them?

Which widows were given priority and why? What is the reasoning for how they should be cared for?

Why were younger widows not put on the “list of widows”? How can helping sometimes hurt?



HEART - WHAT DID GOD SAY TO ME THROUGH HIS WORD?

Jesus is our advocate, our mediator and our intercessor. He reached us when we were alienated from God. We reach out to those who are alienated in society because we have been there – and not that long ago. How does that understanding help us to reach out to the spiritually, physically, and emotionally poor, broken, and marginalized?

What insights from God’s Word are you carrying from this?



WORLD - WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO DO ABOUT IT?

Proverbs 31:8 says “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.” There are many different ways to advocate or care for those on the margins. What ways do you feel God leading you to advocate and empower others?