

## **We are family! - 1 Timothy 5:1-16**

22<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

### **Introduction**

### **Relationships in God's family (verses 1-2)**

> We are family! Spiritual sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers

> If we can't see it: Reflect on the truth – eg 1 Timothy 3:15; Ephesians 2:14-16, 19-22.

> Caring for one another during lockdown.

3 people I will contact:

1, \_\_\_\_\_

2, \_\_\_\_\_

3, \_\_\_\_\_

### **Caring for those in need in God's family (verses 3-15)**

#### *First Century Ephesus*

> Right expectation the church would support those in need with no-one else to help them – particularly older widows.

> No welfare state, no pensions, women generally didn't do paid work.

> Younger widows – doing 2 inappropriate things – verses 11-13. Solutions Paul offers – verses 9-10; 15.

> It's right that families make decisions about how to organise themselves.

#### *Twenty first century Anlaby*

Reading the Bible on our own: Work out the general principles which are true for all time (about God, human nature and identity, sin and salvation); and work out the cultural differences which now apply differently.

> Main principle remains the same: The church supports those in the family in need with no-one else to help.

> Differences: Pensions; welfare state; younger women going out to work.

> The church's job: Carefully consider a person's need and other help because resources are limited. Also have a particular concern for godly Christians.

> Anlaby Churches:

Financial need – Tell a warden, or a member of pastoral team or finance team.

Other needs

### **Caring for our blood family (verses 3-4, 8, 16)**

> Those with elderly parents (verses 3-4, 8)

- Putting our faith into practice
- “Paying them back”

> Those caring for an elderly widow / widower / single man or woman (verse 16)

### **Conclusion**

#### **Taking it further**

God's new community – Graham Beynon