

Church As Family

1 Timothy 5:1-16

Some presuppositions:

God's design for His church is a gospel-revealing _____.

This newly formed community is notable for its _____ and its _____.

The concept scripture employs to define this community is _____.

"... I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God..." (1 Timothy 3:14b-15a)

Church as family presumes multigenerational _____.

Church as family requires multigenerational _____.

Do I consider the other members of my church as my family – my fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers, sons, daughters?

If so, how should I commit to live among each other?

The culture of a healthy family:

_____ our elders.

_____ our peers.

_____ for our vulnerable and needy.

All with _____ ...

An excursus on widows:

*"Honor widows who are **truly** widows."*

What does it mean to "honor"?

Who qualifies?

Some guidelines:

1) Widows are first and foremost the responsibility of their _____ (and then grandchildren).

2) Those who have no family are the responsibility of the _____ (not just the _____).

3) The church is to only honor _____ widows.

Old enough?

Faithful to her marriage?

Known for good works?

4) Younger widows (and presumably _____) are to _____ (and _____ if possible).

5) The church should _____ anyone to live an _____ or _____ life.

A summary:

The supernatural bond we have in Christ is closer and tighter than any natural bonds ...

"Church" takes on a whole new meaning and expression when you realize what God has made us ...

Our lives together as supernatural family is one of the most compelling apologetics for the gospel ...