"Honor Widows"

Intro: Of the great needs that presented itself in the early church there was the ___________ of the widows. So important is the proper care of widows that in this short letter addressed to Timothy the Apostle devoted 14 verses (12.5% of the letter) to instruct Timothy how the church is to minister to ________________, in a godly Christ-exalting manner.

I. The church family is to ______________ care for the widow indeed.
   A. We are to lovingly and _______________ care for widows indeed by ______________ for their earthly, physical needs.
   B. The widow indeed is the widow who is left ___ __________ and in true need.

II. The widow with family is _____ a widow indeed for she is not all ____________.
   A. The widow who has ________________ is to be cared for by her family. We ______________ to this widow by calling her family to her side. Her offspring are to minister to her by meeting her needs as a practice of ________________, giving her a thankful return for all she’s done in bringing them into and up in this world.
   B. God is _______ - ______________ with the family who ministers to their widows. Indeed, such is commendable before God!

III. The widow indeed is recognized by her faith in God which is manifested by her _______ - ________________ deeds.
   A. The widow indeed can be recognized as she ____________ _________ alone!
   B. The church is to support those widows who manifest the godliness of a life ________________ to God and ________________.

IV. The widow who lives in sin is not to be supported by the church. This widow is recognized by her faithless _______ - ________________ deeds.
A. We ________________ to this kind of a widow by calling her to Christ for the ________________ of her soul!

V. The church must ________________ what is here commanded so as to be above reproach in her ____________ deeds.

VI. Those families that ________ to care for their widowed as here prescribed deny the faith and are counted worse than an unbeliever, and that according to their ________________.

A. As the church is the family of God, let us be careful that we fulfill this instruction, knowing that if we disobey here, either as an individual family member or the church, we will be counted as those who deny the faith and are worse than an unbeliever. While widows indeed hope in God, ________ meets their need by ________________ the church to their aid. And for widows with family, God meets their need through their family. Let ___ be found faithful unto the God who freely granted us faith in Christ.

Closing: In the care of widows we must ________________ after ____________, for even in His death He saw to His mother’s ____________. ...

Let us be careful to minister to widows and widows indeed as we are here instructed, and we know that by ________________ widows we will indeed honor ________! Let us be a beacon of love in this darkened world, whereby the lives we live and the care we give widows testifies of Christ’s great love for us. May God be honored in us! For this we live and breathe: to ________ be _______ ____________!

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