

# Giving Correction in God's Household



## 1 Timothy 5:1-2

**Big Idea:** Paul coaches Timothy on how to treat members of God's household.

### Introduction

Timothy was faced with false teachers who were promoting myths, speculation, and meaningless discussion. These teachers wouldn't allow eating certain foods and wouldn't allow others to be married. They were leaving behind the good conscience that faith in Jesus allows us to have, in exchange for a misuse of God's law, a pursuit of financial gain, and teachings that ultimately led to a shipwreck of one's faith. And it's likely that some of these teachers were actually among the leaders of the church—among the leadership office we call elders. Timothy faced the difficult task of correcting this difficult situation. But how?

Paul admonishes Timothy to be careful how he treats different members of God's household. In this, Paul assumes more than he explains. But it is a helpful guide for young leaders who want to influence the church for good.

### Main Points

Recall Paul's purpose for writing:

"I hope to come to you soon, but 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, a pillar and buttress of the truth." (1 Timothy 3:14-15)

Directions for correcting God's Household:

"Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity." (1 Timothy 5:1-2)

"Rebuke" is a strong word that only occurs here in the New Testament. It means "to hit". Thus, Timothy was to use gentleness and restraint towards older men. See 2 Timothy 2:24-25.

"Encourage" is the word verbal form of parakletos, which is the word Jesus used to refer to the Holy Spirit (John 14:16). It means "to call alongside"; hence, "to urge, exhort, appeal, encourage".

Timothy was to encourage older men as fathers, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters with all purity.

Noting purity, this is one strategy for resisting impurity. That is, change how we view others. They are not object of lust. Rather, they are fellow members of God's household and gifts from Him.

## Application

1. Josh thinks that one of the greatest needs in the church is Christian brotherhood where true accountability takes place. Have you ever experienced this?
2. One way to resist lust is to change how we view the object of our lust. View members of the opposite sex as gifts from God and members of God's family.
3. Remember, we all have a duty to encourage one another: "But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end." (Hebrews 3:13-14)