

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## Prayer

- Church-wide, we are praying for God to give leadership wisdom on when and how to plant.

## Introduction

- The church is not a business. The church is not a club. The church is a family. Today's passage teaches us how to relate to our family of faith.
- *Do you tend to view church as a family? Why or why not?*

## Read 1 Timothy 5:1-16

- *What does it teach us about older men that we are to encourage them rather than rebuke them?*
- *Who has been like a spiritual father to you?*
- *Take a vote: as a church, do you think we should greet one another as "brother" and "sister"? Yes or no?*
- *Why do you think Paul takes such care to teach about ministering to widows?*
- *Do you know any godly widows? What have you learned from their example?*
- *What would it look like to "make a return" to your parents in this season?*
- *How can we apply the principle of relatives taking care of their own before relying upon the aid of the church?*
- *What are the practices to avoid in verses 11-13?*
- *How can we effectively care for our widows?*
- Take time to pray for our widows as a group.

## "One-Anothering"

- Each discussion guide this year will feature one of the scriptures' "one another" statements. These instructions guide us on how to love one another.
- *Pray for one another. (James 5:16)*