**Sunday 3rd July**

**1 Timothy 5 v 1-16 CARE MATTERS**

**Introduction**

Take opportunity to explain to each other:

One characteristic of God to praise him for, One thing to thank him for and One thing to ask him for

Perhaps listen to a song…GOODNESS OF GOD <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-f4MUUMWMV4>

Talk Synopsis

1. Our God cares
2. Our God cares for all including the shunned
3. Our God’s love is made complete as we love one another

Read the passage 1 Timothy 5 v 1-16

Why has the problem of the widows care arisen? Why is it a problem?

Possible answer – it distracts and is contrary to the gospel message “ Folk won’t care for what we may say until they know we care”

Remind ourselves of the purpose of the letter 1 Timothy 1 Tim 1 v 3 and 1 Tim 2 v 5

Look at the passion that Paul conveys in these verses: 1 Tim 1 v 2, v 11, v 14 and v 15

Contrast that 1 Tim 5 v 8.

**Our God cares** : Encourage each other with these verses

Genesis 1 v 1,2

Nahum 1 v 7

1 Peter 5 v 7

Share occasions when you have known God’s care or God’s care shown to you by others, Do you have other favourite verses that convey our caring God.

**Our God cares for all including the shunned**

Take opportunity to remind each other of hero widows in the Bible.. Anna, Luke 2 v 36-38;the Temple widow Mark 12 v 41-44, The widow at Zarephath 1 Kings 17 v 7-24

Recount Psalm 68 v 4-5

Who are the shunned or overlooked in our community?

Are we overlooking anyone coming into church on Sunday

How might we improve the welcome we give - the signal that we give to each other I’m so glad you’re here?

**Our God’s love is made complete as we love one another**

How does John describe God’s love being made complete read 1 John 4 v 7 -21

What are the positive implications if God’s love is complete?

Celebrate the promise that God lives in us and that as his love rather than our effort is made complete there is so much potential

Let us not underestimate the significance that God can apply to the smallest caring gesture that we might consider insignificant Share occasions when you have found that to be true.

Within NMBC how are we caring for each other well? How might we care better?

As we look to our guests and community – how are we caring well? How might we care better?

Please feedback ideas to the leadership – even the smallest nugget ideas

Does caring more necessarily mean doing more? When might caring more involve doing less?

How can we maintain a balance?

Please include in your prayers Kingston Foodbank <https://kingston.foodbank.org.uk/>

“ if we love one another , God lives in us And his love is made complete in us – may God’spromise encourage and empower us this week

Have a good week and do come back with your ideas

Colin