

# **“Let Not The Church Be Charged”**

**1 Tim. 5:16**

## **Introduction:**

- A. **“Let the church do it”** — popular answer to community and family needs.
  - 1. Assumes that churches have funds and counselors for every purpose.
  - 2. Media encourages this idea by the publicity given to such “church work.”
- B. Christians have responsibilities in several realms: Domestic, Economic, Civil, Civic, and Spiritual.
  - 1. Works in each realm both individually and through the institutions/organizations in each realm.
  - 2. The institution/organization in the spiritual realm is the local church.
- C. Local church specializes in public worship and Bible teaching with limited role in benevolence.
  - 1. It can teach what Bible says about **business** dealings without becoming a BBB or employment agency.
  - 2. It can teach what Bible says about **family relationships** without becoming a family life center.
  - 3. It can teach what Bible says about **government** without becoming a political action organization.
  - 4. It can teach what Bible says to young women about being **homemakers** without teaching homemaking.
  - 5. It can teach what Bible says about **marriage** without becoming a marriage broker or counseling service.
  - 6. It can teach what Bible says about **child training** without becoming either a home or school.
- D. Many areas where we need to meet individual responsibilities and say “Let not the church be burdened.”

## **Discussion:**

- I. Let Not The Church Be Charged With Your Family’s Needs. (1 Tim. 5:16).**
  - A. Christians must provide for own families. (1 Tim. 5:8).
  - B. Children have responsibility to support parents. (Matt. 15:4-6).
- II. Let Not The Church Be Charged with Your Poor Neighbors.**
  - A. N. T. *churches* cared only for saints. (Acts 6:1-6; Acts 11:27-30; Rom. 15:25-28; 1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 8-9)
  - B. N. T. *Christians* (individually) cared for all according ability and opportunity.
    - 1. To all men. (Gal. 6:10; Jas. 1:27)
    - 2. Have a wide range of responsibility. (Matt. 25:34-46).
- III. Let Not The Church Be Charged With Social Services for Your Family and Community.**
  - A. Where is the authority for church to provide entertainment, social, and recreational activities?
  - B. Such are “at home” activities. (cf. 1 Cor. 11:22,34).
- IV. Let Not The Church Be Charged with Rearing Your Children.**
  - A. Church can provide Bible teaching for people of all ages and relationships. (1 Tim. 3:15; Phil. 4:15,16).
    - 1. Gospel is for every creature — including your child. (Mk. 16:15,16).
    - 2. Preaching includes rebuking, reproofing, exhorting — including your child. (2 Tim. 4:1-4; Eph. 6:1).
    - 3. Church edifies and disciplines its members — including your child who is Christian.
  - B. Parents, not the church, responsible for rearing children (Eph. 6:4).
    - 1. Involves physical, mental, psychological, social, economic and spiritual development.
    - 2. Involves means of developing in all of these areas.
      - a. Instruction in all these areas – a good education.
      - b. Discipline and behavioral training—even how to behave in church.
      - c. Environment—proper associations.
    - 3. May use church (in areas where church may function) school or camp as supplement- still parents job.

## **Conclusion:**

- A. Let Christians accept their individual responsibilities and let not church be burdened.
  - 1. Do not expect church's personnel to do your job for you.
  - 2. Some oppose church “youth-director,” then criticize church’s preachers/teachers for not acting like one.
- B. Let Christians not blame church for their failures as individuals.