Deacons Ministry to Widows

How to Minister to Our Widows through Communication, Respect, & Care

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- **Communication**
  - **Making the first contact is the most important step. Call to identify yourself as her deacon.** Set an appointment with the widow. Explain that you will want to make a personal visit with your wife.
  - When you arrive **introduce yourself.** Make sure she understands and can hear you. W**ear your deacon ID name badge.**
  - **Explain what you are just getting to know her and her needs.** Make sure she understands the tasks you will not necessarily be doing the work yourself, but just getting to know her and her needs. Do not make any promises.
  - **Be honest**. If your widow asks you to do extra jobs, let her know what you are not there to do physical work. If there are items that need fixing around the house, someone will contact her from Men Serve to get the details so that supplies and equipment can be ordered. Assure her that you will maintain contact with her.
- **Honor & Respect**
  - **Be on time when you make an appointment.** Please call your widow when you are on your way with an ETA.
  - **Be gracious**. Please refrain from outward judgment of the condition of her home, but instead give her helpful direction and service. Always accept any hospitality given by your widow.
  - **Be understanding**. Listen to your widow and refrain from pressuring ideas on her that are non-essential.
  - **Be thoughtful & mindful.** When you arrive, **build a relationship**. Take 10-15 minutes visiting and getting to know who you are serving. Ask her open-ended questions about herself as well as sharing about who you are too. Go over the forms to be sure she is taken care of.

- **Pray**.
- **After each Contact**
  - **Fill out forms and send them to Peggy Jones: peggy.jones@houstonsfirst.org**

If you have any problems contacting your widow, call:

Dan Craig—281-496-1750, cell 281-382-7951

Peggy Jones – Cell 713-305-0738, or **Sherry Oradat** - 713-957-6764