




**How can we, the Body of Christ,
do more for the widows in our community?**

The Bible commands us to “**plead for the widow**”. Too often, the perception is that once a funeral is over and a widow begins to appear to have regained normalcy in her life no need exists for her care. Nothing can be further from the truth.

The following quotes come from Stand in the Gap widows.



“I will not go to a movie or out to dinner by myself.”

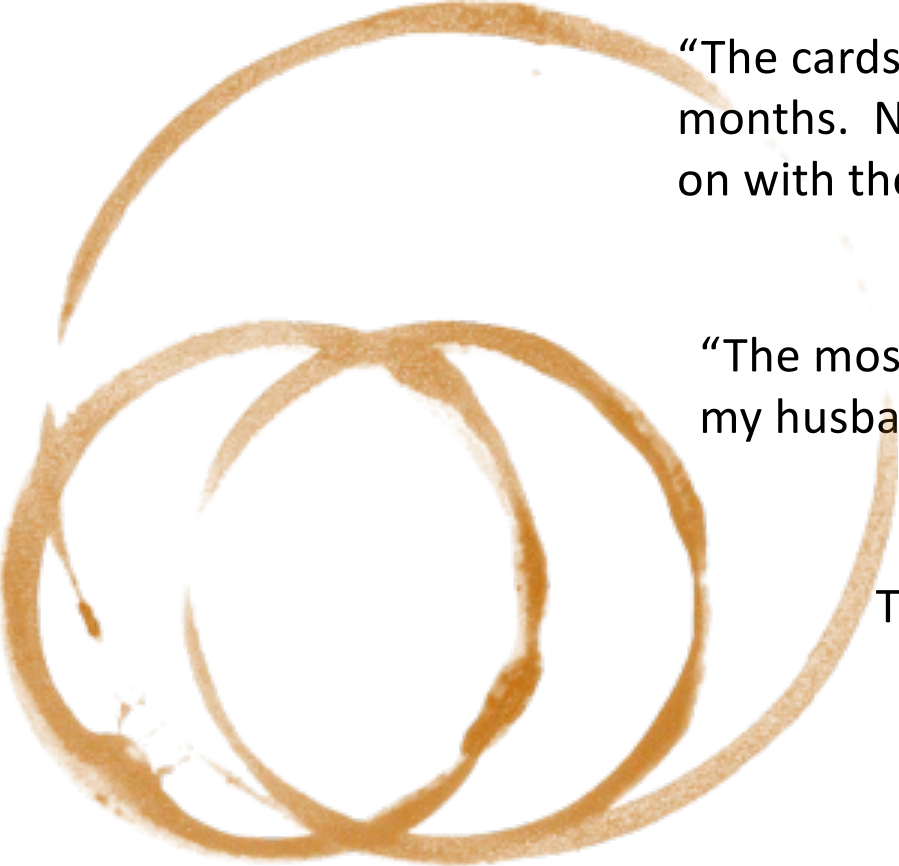
“It is difficult to cook for one.”

“I am at a dinner party for 6 and I’m number 7.”



“Unless you are a widow, you can not understand the depth of this pain.”

“ I would love to have other widow friends to walk along side with through our grief journey.”

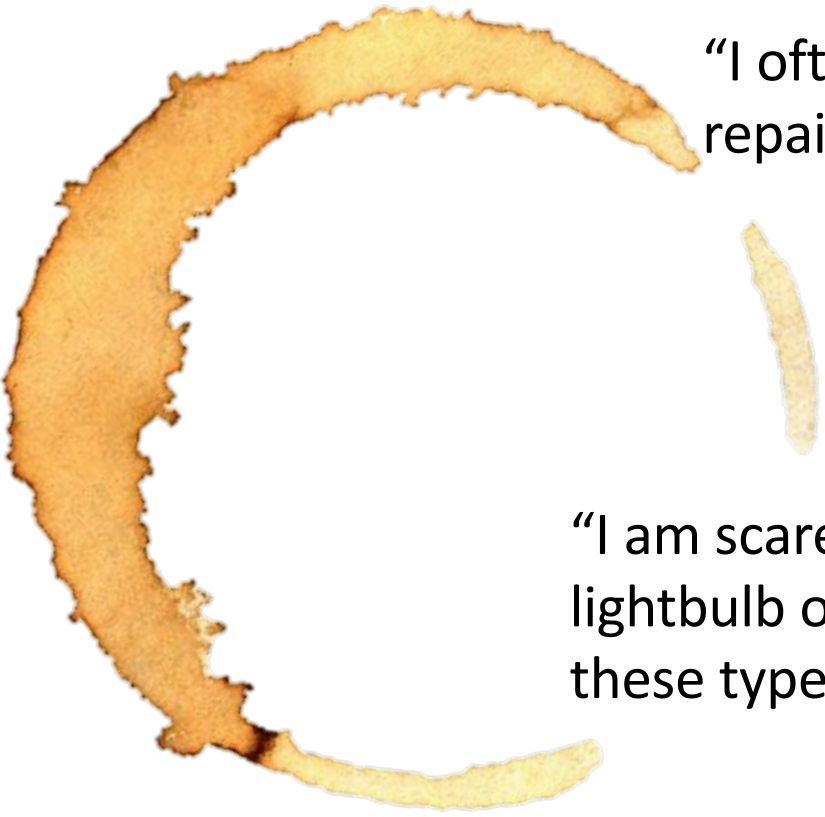


“The cards, the calls, the visits all stopped after a few months. No one said it to my face, but they had moved on with their lives.”

“The most loving thing you can do for me is to remember my husband and share your memories of him.”

The worst days of my year are:

My husband’s Heavenly Birthday
Our Anniversary
Valentine’s Day
Christmas



“I often feel taken advantage of when I get repairs done on my home or car.”

“I am scared to climb a ladder to change a lightbulb or clean the gutters. It is not safe to do these type of projects when I live alone.”

WHY A WIDOW MINISTRY?

Many widows feel like they are in a “fog” after their husband’s death. They often lose friendships, experience financial hardship, or struggle with illness themselves. The realities of life as a widow usually bring their own, fresh grief.

But being a widow does not have to mean being alone.

We can help by hosting social gatherings, providing practical home and car care maintenance or facilitating small groups of widows.

Join Us & Stand in the Gap for Widows.



Stand in the Gap for Widows research suggests that widows need:



Social interactions with other widows.

Small Groups of widows to walk their grief journey.

Practical Help with home maintenance and car care needs.

To be remembered and ministered to through a **Card & Book Ministry**.



Many widows feel alone and that no one understands.

Having a strong network of support and a community bond fosters both emotional and physical health.

A social ministry can consist of special dinners designed specifically for widows, group projects, frozen meal parties or events.

"I'm at a dinner party for 6 and I'm number 7." - Widow Voice

"I was overwhelmed and tears filled my eyes when I walked into the room and realized the time and effort that went into this event and just for us." - Widow Voice

Widows need someone to help them sort through their emotions and in the process, someone who will cry with them, allow them to express fully their pain and struggles and who will be there for them as they face the crises that inevitably come.

Our research shows that widows are hurting deeply one year, two years and even ten years plus. In a SITGM small group there is no directing, counseling, steering toward a predetermined goal, no manipulation, no fixing — just a complete reliance on God to work.

“I was with my husband when he died suddenly. After 42 years of marriage, half of me was gone.” - Widow Voice

“No one can comfort a widow like another widow. When we see another woman enter this experience...we want to comfort her.” - Miriam Neff





Practical Needs

Ministry

Repeatedly, widows have told SITGM they need practical help. Our widow programs provide for their needs through our home maintenance and car care ministries.

Widows need information and assistance on issues concerning their home and car maintenance, they need help finding quality products and qualified service providers, and they need advice and guidance from a trusted and knowledgeable church family member.

A Car Care Ministry is designed to help the widowed women of your church and community with basic car care needs such as: washing, vacuuming, oil checks, fluid checks, belts and hose inspection, tire pressure and checking the car for any needed repairs. The widow can receive free, proper care and valuable advice concerning her car's condition.

“The car care clinic made me feel more empowered to deal with my car and its repair and maintenance. I trust them to give me honest advice.” - Widow Voice

“I always feel ignorant when I go to a garage and feel they could easily take advantage of me. Now I can feel safe that my car will be taken care of and I will receive honest advice.”

- Widow Voice



One of our practical needs ministries is a Home Maintenance Ministry called Widow Saturday. It is constructed to help widows with minor repair projects around the house.

Widows tell us they often feel vulnerable when it comes to getting work done on their homes. Having a trusted church volunteer provide helpful advice and repair work means a great deal to widows.

“When my husband was alive, we divided our responsibilities and he took care of maintaining the house. If something goes wrong, I don’t even know where to turn off the water.” - Widow Voice





The ministry purpose is to convey the light and love found in Jesus Christ through correspondence.

Remembering a widow on her birthday, Valentine's Day, Christmas, Thanksgiving, the day her husband went home, etc., will express our love and show we have not forgotten them.

"The cards, the calls, the visits, they all stopped. No one told me to my face but they had all moved on with their lives." Widow Voice

"The most loving thing you can do for me is to tell me you remember my husband." - Widow Voice



Thoughts
Questions

WIDOW RESPONSE CARD



I would like to join:

- Small Group Ministry
- Social Ministry

**Please rank your widow ministry needs in order 1-5 of importance of need.
1 being the most important.**

- Social Ministry
- Small Group Ministry
- Car Care Ministry
- Home Maintenance Ministry
- Card & Book Ministry

Name

Phone #

Email

Address

VOLUNTEER RESPONSE CARD



I would like to volunteer:

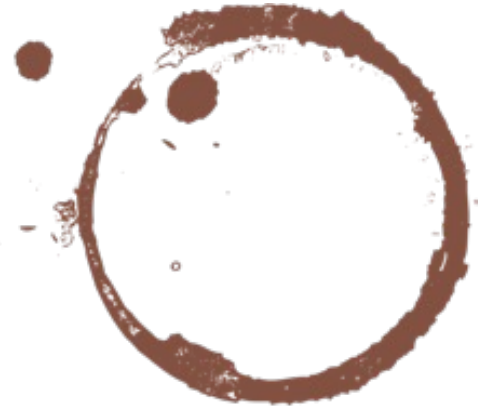
- Social Ministry
- Small Group Ministry
- Car Care Ministry
- Home Maintenance Ministry
- Card & Book Ministry

Name

Phone #

Email

Address



Coffee, Cake & Conversation Response Card

Please share your thoughts on each widow ministry idea. For example, is the idea something needed, would you be interested in participating, do you have specific ministry requests etc.

Social Ministry

Small Group & Widow Fellowship Ministry

Practical Needs

Card & Book Ministry



Religion that God our Father finds pure and faultless, is this: take care of HIS widows. James 1:27

Stand in the Gap for *Widows*