



# A theological case for Everence providing Medicare Supplement Insurance

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The following are meant to be thinking/talking points to engage pastors and churches on why Everence® feels called to serve our seniors with Medicare Supplement education and insurance plans. The ideas are not meant to be comprehensive; they are meant to spur thinking and conversation.

## 1. Our first act of stewardship is the very life that God gives us.

- a. His breath makes your flesh valuable. (Genesis 2:7)
  - i. In Hebrew, breath, spirit, and wind were interconnected:
    - 1. Ruach (Genesis 1:2)
    - 2. Napach, neshamah (Genesis 2:7)
  - ii. This “borrowed breath” is our first act of stewardship. It’s the first thing God gives us to take care of before entrusting us with more. (Luke 12:41-48, Luke 19:11-27)
  - iii. God made human flesh and called it good. (Genesis 1:26-31)
  - iv. He also sent His Son to become flesh and reveals Himself through a human body. (John 1:1-18)
- b. The body is spiritual and how we treat our body is stewardship.
  - i. The body is meant for the Lord. (1 Corinthians 6:13)
  - ii. Body as a temple for the Holy Spirit; therefore, glorify God with your body. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

## 2. Caring for other’s physical well-being is a way we express the value of their being, and a fulfillment of the great commandment to “love other’s as ourselves.” (Leviticus 19:18, Matthew 22:39)

- a. The parable of the good Samaritan answers both the questions: who is my neighbor and how do I love them? By the physical care he provided for the wounded traveler. (Luke 10:25-37)
- b. Jesus’ earthly ministry included an extensive healing ministry. (Matthew 4:23-24)
  - i. He seemed very concerned about people’s wholeness in human bodies.
  - ii. Healing was a sign of the coming of God’s Kingdom. (Luke 11:20)
- c. The early church...
  - i. Shared material possessions to ensure that no one was in need. (Acts 2:44-45)
  - ii. Continued to value the physical healing of humans as Jesus did. (James 5:14-15)
  - iii. Commanded that compassionate action was an outgrowth of our faith in Jesus. (James 2:14-17)  
*“Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, ‘Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”*



### MATTHEW 22:37-39, NIV

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it:

**Love your neighbor as yourself.**

- d. For further study
  - i. Health care was a function of the church before it was a function of government or business.
  - ii. See [Christian History Institute Health and Hospitals Issue 101](#).

**3. Health care for seniors is especially pertinent because of the biblical mandate to care for those who cannot fully care for themselves.**

- a. In the Old Testament, these vulnerable people are often represented by the grouping “widows, orphans, aliens,” and their care is commanded by God to the community.
  - ii. Deuteronomy 14:28-29, 24:17-21, 26:12-13; Isaiah 10:1-3, Zechariah 7:10-12
- b. In the New Testament:
  - i. Jesus warns against the scribes, describing their behavior of “[devouring] widows houses” as the most egregious acts warranting condemnation. (Mark 12:38-40, Luke 20:46-47)
  - ii. James states that true religion (faith) cares for widows and orphans. (James 1:27)
  - iii. While stating it was not right to neglect the apostolic ministries they were called to, the apostles also knew it was not right to neglect the widows among their number, so they established “deacons” to care for the physical needs of their elders. (Acts 6)



We believe assisting our senior members through this season of life is imperative. And as always, we want to partner with your church to meet the needs of your faith family.

**Contact your stewardship consultant to learn more.**

