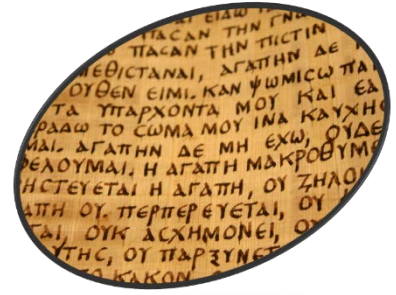


# 1 Corinthians – “Unity in Christ”

## Lesson #8



### I. Marriage

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-7

- b. What does Paul mean, “concerning what you all wrote”? (vs 1)
- c. Why would some Corinthians believe it best to not touch a woman, even while married? (vs 1)
- d. Paul tells us that marriage is a trust in which husband and wife give themselves fully to one another, except under certain circumstances. What is a reason to stay apart for a time? (vs 5)
- e. Is Paul married or single? What is Paul’s gift? (vss 7-8)

### II. Widows and unmarried

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:8-9

- b. Is it bad to remain single?
- c. What does society say about remaining single?

### III. Divorce

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:10-11

- b. For whom is Paul speaking in verse 10?
  - i. See Luke 16:18; Matthew 19:6; Mark 10:4-12 (Deuteronomy 24:1-4)
- c. Do we, as a society, take divorce seriously enough?

### IV. Marriage (unequally yoked)

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:12-16

- b. Why does Paul clarify that he’s giving his pastoral opinion? (vs 12)
- c. Paul calls the Corinthian believers “holy” or “sanctified” many times in this letter (1:2; 3:17; 6:1, 2, 11). What does he mean in verse 14?
- d. Under what circumstances is a divorce conceivable? (vs 15) Why?
- e. Can we save another person? (vs 16)

### V. Be content

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:17-24

- b. How can Christians make a difference for Christ in their current place?
- c. Is Paul supporting slavery?
- d. The word “called” is used in verses 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 24. How does the world today view a calling?

VI. **Never married? It's okay!**

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:25-28

b. What does "betrothed" mean? (vs 25)

c. Again, Paul gives a pastoral judgment (vs 25), but why does he see staying single as prudent? (vs 26 & 28)

VII. **The time is short...**

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

b. When Paul says that time is short, does he mean for Corinth, or does he mean for the world and the return of Jesus? (vs 29)

i. See Romans 13:11; Ephesians 5:16

c. What is Paul attempting to convey in verses 29-31?

VIII. **Distractions...**

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:32-35

b. What does Jesus call the cares of this world in His Parable of the Sower?

i. See Matthew 13:22

c. Is Paul supporting the Roman Catholic view that priests and nuns be celibate?

d. How do relationships (searching for more and maintaining present ones) distract us from service to the Lord?

IX. **Engaged? Conscience matters**

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:36-38

b. What is the difference between betrothed and engaged?

i. See Luke 1:27, Matthew 1:18-19

c. What is the concern being addressed in this passage?

d. What is Paul suggesting here? What is "even better"? (vs 38)

X. **Widows can remarry...believers**

a. Read 1 Corinthians 7:39-40

b. Death dissolves a marriage, but what are believers not free to do? (vs 39)

i. See 2 Corinthians 6:14

c. Why is Paul revisiting widows after already addressing them in verses 1-7?

d. Why would Paul say, "I think that I also have the Spirit of God"? (vs 40)

XI. **Next time...**

a. Read 1 Corinthians 8:1-13