

First Baptist Church of Progress Village
Wednesday Bible Study
1 Corinthians Chapter 7 Part 2
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I. Assessing whether believers Marry or Remain Single

1 Corinthians 7:25 (KJV) *Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful.*

A. Paul's **guidance** is God inspired from intimate relationship and Spiritual wisdom, not merely an "**opinion**".

1 Corinthians 7:25 (NLT2) *Now regarding your question about the young women who are not yet married. I do not have a command from the Lord for them. But the Lord in his mercy has given me wisdom that can be trusted, and I will share it with you.*

B. Time with God's **Word** opens your heart and mind to God's **wisdom**.

1 Corinthians 7:26 (NLT2) *Because of the present crisis, I think it is best to remain as you are.*

What was the "present crisis"? The sexual immorality, mixed signals, and confusion about how to live righteously in an unrighteous community.

1 Corinthians 7:24 (NASB) *Brethren, each one is to remain with God in that condition in which he was called.*

C. Don't be in a **rush** to move into or out of marriage.

1 Corinthians 7:27-28 (NLT2) *If you have a wife, do not seek to end the marriage. If you do not have a wife, do not seek to get married. But if you do get married, it is not a sin. And if a young woman gets married, it is not a sin. However, those who get married at this time will have troubles, and I am trying to spare you those problems.*

D. In the time, Paul stated that getting married is **not** wrong.

Marriage is not easy, so do not rush in thinking that is going to solve all your issues and concerns.

1 Corinthians 7:36-38 (NLT2) *But if a man thinks that he's treating his fiancée improperly and will inevitably give in to his passion, let him marry her as he wishes. It is not a sin. But if he has decided firmly not to marry and there is no urgency and he can control his passion, he does well not to marry. So the person who marries his fiancée does well, and the person who doesn't marry does even better.*

E. Singleness and Marriage both come with their own sets of **challenges**.

1 Corinthians 7:39-40 (NLT2) *A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. If her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, but only if he loves the Lord. But in my opinion it would be better for her to stay single, and I think I am giving you counsel from God's Spirit when I say this.*

F. Widows/widowers are free to **decide** to remarry a **believer** or remain **single**.

1 Timothy 5:14-15 (NLT2) *So I advise these younger widows to marry again, have children, and take care of their own homes. Then the enemy will not be able to say anything against them. For I am afraid that some of them have already gone astray and now follow Satan.*

G. There are reasons younger widows **should** remarry.

- 1) Not falling to **idleness** (lose purpose, gossiping/meddling),
- 2) Not **exhaust** the churches' resources from older widows in need
- 3) Not falling to **sexual** temptation.

II. Attention to important eternal Spiritual matters

1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (NLT2) *But let me say this, dear brothers and sisters: The time that remains is very short. So from now on, those with wives should not focus only on their marriage. Those who weep or who rejoice or who buy things should not be absorbed by their weeping or their joy or their possessions. Those who use the things of the world should not become attached to them. For this world as we know it will soon pass away.*

A. Current seasons are **temporary**. We should not give too much weight to temporary things that will pass away sooner than later.

Matthew 22:28-30 (KJV) *Therefore in the resurrection whose wife shall she be of the seven? for they all had her. Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.*

B. We will all be **married** to **Christ** in Heaven, meaning Jesus will be our first, great, and only priority as it relates to how we live and spend eternity.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35 (NLT2) *I want you to be free from the concerns of this life. An unmarried man can spend his time doing the Lord's work and thinking how to please him. But a married man has to think about his earthly responsibilities and how to please his wife. His interests are divided. In the same way, a woman who is no longer married or has never been married can be devoted to the Lord and holy in body and in spirit. But a married woman has to think about her earthly responsibilities and how to please her husband. I am saying this for your benefit, not to place restrictions on you. I want you to do whatever will help you serve the Lord best, with as few distractions as possible.*

C. This **pastoral** guidance is given to help the church **serve** God as best they can.

Next Week Finish Read Chapter 8