

## Bible Reading

### 1 Corinthians 7: Love and Marriage

Pastor Mike

1. What concern is raised in this chapter? (vv. 1-2, 10) What potential problem is Paul trying to keep out of the church? (v. 2, c.f. chp. 5)
2. In marriage what must each spouse do in order to avoid sexual conflict? (vv. 3-4) On what occasions may abstinence be appropriate? What must a couple do to avoid defrauding each other in this area?
3. What is Paul recommending to men in verse 7? Why would he recommend this? What danger might it pose? (vv. 8-9)
4. What does Paul say departing spouses are supposed to do? (vv. 10-11) If a brother has an unbelieving spouse, what is Paul's instruction? (vv. 12-13) By these instructions, what is Paul affirming or commending to the Corinthians?
5. What reasons does Paul give for believing spouses to stay with unbelieving spouses? What obligation does a believing spouse have if his unbelieving spouse leaves? (vv. 14-16) Can divorced believers remarry?
6. What did Paul have in mind when he said God distributed to every man? (v. 17) In this passage what three things don't change when someone becomes a Christian? (vv. 18-24) Why would it be important for Christians to continue as they are and not rather change things they don't like? (v. 24)
7. Why does Paul recommend Christians not marry? (vv. 25-26, 28). What matter causes Paul to tell these Christians not to get caught up on questions of marriage and divorce? (vv. 29-31) What should every Christian regardless of marital status care for? (vv. 32-33, 35) What burden does marriage place upon a person? (v. 34)
8. Who is the man in verse 36 that is behaving uncomely toward the virgin? What should this man do if torn between letting the virgin marry or refusing the marriage? (vv. 36-38) What should a grown Christian woman do if she feels her father is not giving her adequate opportunity to marry?
9. What qualification is necessary before a Christian consider marriage to another? (v. 39, c.f. 2 Cor. 6:14). Under what circumstances, if any, does this chapter permit remarriage (vv. 36, 15)? Any others? (Matt. 5:31-32)
10. In Paul's mind, under what circumstance would a virgin be happier? What implications on contentment might this say to both singles and married today? (v. 40)