

1 Corinthians 7:1-16

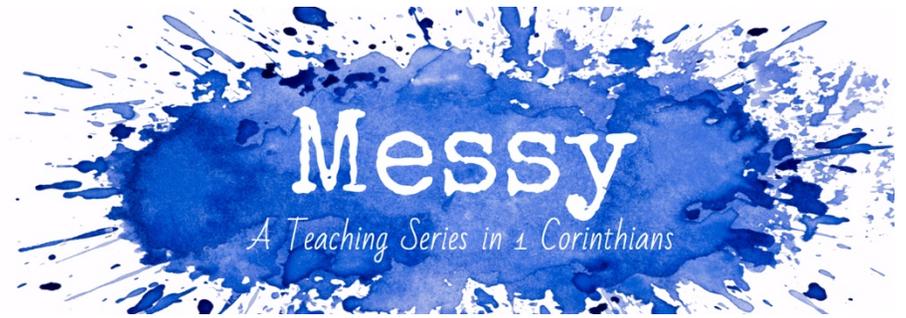
Now for the matters you wrote about: “It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.”² But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband.³ The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband.⁴ The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife.⁵ Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.⁶ I say this as a concession, not as a command.⁷ I wish that all of you were as I am. But each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.

⁸ Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I do.⁹ But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

¹⁰ To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband.¹¹ But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

¹² To the rest I say this (I, not the Lord): If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her.¹³ And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him.¹⁴ For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

¹⁵ But if the unbeliever leaves, let it be so. The brother or the sister is not bound in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace.¹⁶ How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or, how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?



Marriage and the Kingdom of God

1 Corinthians 7:1-16

12/3/201

TWO CULTURAL PROBLEMS

1. Many people overvalue **MARRIAGE**.
2. Many people overvalue **SINGLENESS**.

MUTUALITY

- Paul rejects the two cultural extremes of **SEXLESS** marriage and **MARRIAGE-LESS** sex.
- The **MUTUALITY** of marriage: husbands and wives with equal privileges and equal responsibilities in their covenantal love relationship.

SEX IN MARRIAGE

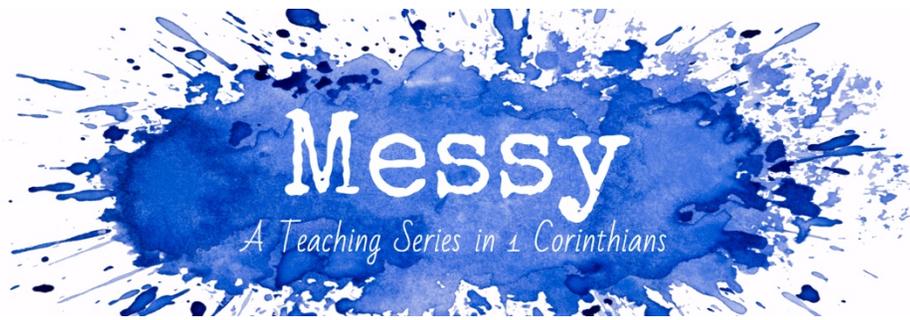
- A husband must not have sex with **ANYONE** but his wife, and his obligation is her **PLEASURE** and **SATISFACTION**.
- Each person shouldn't be concerned with just **GETTING** sexual pleasure, but **GIVING** it.

SINGLENESS

- Either singleness or marriage is a **GIFT** given to you by God.
1. You need the **"SPOUSAL"** love of Jesus in your life.
 2. To walk this path, single people need Christian **COMMUNITY**.
 3. We should welcome **DISCUSSION** on what the Bible says about sex, marriage and singleness.

DIVORCE

1. Divorce is an **AMPUTATION**.
2. Divorce is **SOMETIMES PERMITTED** for life.
3. An **UNBIBLICAL** divorce cannot be the **UNFORGIVEABLE** sin



Marriage and the Kingdom of God

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12/3/2017

GROWTH GROUP DIGGING DEEPER QUESTIONS

To catch the weekend message, go to: MissionTrailsChurch.com or the MTC App.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Volunteer Christmas Party!** – Saturday Dec. 9, 5:30-7:30
- **Giving Tree** – Sundays through December 10
- **Annual Meeting** – Sunday December 10, 12:15pm
- **Christmas Under the Stars** – Friday December 22, 6:00pm

DIGGING DEEPER

1. If you need to, re-read **1 Corinthians 7:1-16**

Is there anything important or new that you learn from this passage having to do with MARRIAGE?

2. Is there anything important or new that you learn from this passage having to do with SINGLENESS?

3. Is there anything important or new that you learn from this passage having to do with DIVORCE?

GETTING PERSONAL

4. During times of singleness, how are these things important (or how *have* they been important) to you?

- You need the “spousal love” of Jesus in your life.
- To walk this path, single people need Christian community.
- We should welcome discussion on what the Bible says about sex, marriage and singleness.

5. In verse 7 Paul says that both marriage and singleness can be a *gift* from God. **Do you believe that about your current situation, or do you believe that God can give you what you need in order to flourish in your life right now? If not, what do you think is keeping you from experiencing that?**

6. How do you think you can contribute to the flourishing of both married people or single people within our church family?

BRINGING IT HOME

7. What truth from this passage do you most need to apply to your life right now?

PRAY TOGETHER