

Calvary Chapel on the Horizon  
July 31, 2022  
1Corinthians chapter 7:10-40 "Following the Lord"

I. Introduction

**Rev 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.**

† **Col 1:10** That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto **all pleasing**, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

† **The Key Verse last week was: 1Co 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.**

† **And we discussed:**

- **The sin of walking in our flesh sexually and that fornication is wrong.**
- **We discussed that some have the Gift of Celibacy**
- **Spouses have the responsibility to each other regarding intimacy**

† **Last Week Ended with the thought that Our heart's desire should be to please and glorify God in all we do...seek first the Kingdom of God!**

† **This week: we continue dealing with issues of marriage, divorce, & singleness**

II. Divorce

{Speaking to a Christian couple} **1Co 7:10-11** And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband: 11 But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.

A. Jesus on Divorce

**Mat 19:3-9** The Pharisees also came unto him, tempting him, and saying unto him, Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause? 4 And he answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female, 5 And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh? 6 Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. 7 They say unto him, "Why did Moses then command to give a writing of divorcement, and to put her away?" 8 He saith unto them, Moses because of the hardness of your hearts suffered you to put away your wives: but from the beginning it was not so. 9 And I say unto you, whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.

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**B. Divorcing an Unbeliever**

**1Co 7:12-16** But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away. 13 And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. 14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. 15 But if the unbelieving departs, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace. 16 For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?

† **People should not divorce their spouse just because they are an "Un-believer". A Christian should allow them to stay with you after you get saved.**

† **BUT, if they want to leave they should not stand in the way.**

† **Just as the believer is set apart for the work of the Kingdom...even so, the unbelieving spouse is exposed to and integrated into the sanctification process. They will be included or exposed to the ministry that is performed – and hopefully drawn in to salvation.**

† **This idea or process includes the children, too!**

† **Peter echoes this idea for wives in 1Pet 3:1-2** Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; 2 While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear.

† **The goal is that the spouse gets saved!**

**III. Abiding Contentment**

**1Co 7:17-24** But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches. 18 Is any man called being circumcised? let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised. 19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God. 20 Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called. 21 Art thou called being a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather. 22 For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise, also he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant. 23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men. 24 Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God.

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**A. Contentedness**

- † It doesn't matter "who" we are...or what our job in life is...**slave, master, circumcised, uncircumcised...**
- † **It doesn't matter what we have accomplished or not accomplished in our jobs**
- † **What matters is that we follow and keep the commandments of God:**
  - **Love God with your heart, mind, soul, & strength**
  - **Love your neighbor as yourself – remembering...**
    - ✓ **Love does no "ill will"**
    - ✓ **We are to be on good terms with all people as much as lies within us!**
- † **Paul tells us to "abide in the same calling where he was called"**
- † **God desires that we live contentedly – not striving to be or do something that is not from Him! ...that's where trust comes in!**
- † **1Ti 6:6** But godliness with contentment is great gain.
- † **Php 4:11-13** Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. 12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: everywhere and in all things, I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.
- † **WE ARE TO BE SERVANTS OF JESUS CHRIST AND THUS, TO EACH OTHER!**
- † **And... the bottom line here is to abide with God...**

**B. Abiding in Christ**

**1Co 7:24** Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God.

- † **Joh 15:1, 5, 8-10** I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye

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in my love. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

✝ **We will find that our true contentment comes from Abiding in Christ...it will lead us to live lovingly and walk contentedly!**

#### **IV. Un-Married**

##### **A. Time is Short**

**1Co 7:25-31** Now concerning virgins {speaking of the young unmarried men and women} I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful. 26 I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be. {here he's referring to a man} 27 Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife. 28 But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless, such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you. 29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none; 30 And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; 31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

- ✝ **We find the motivation behind Paul's teaching...he truly believes in the imminent return of Christ for His bride. It is what drove him and it should be what drives us!**
- ✝ **Rom 13:11-14** And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. 14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.
- ✝ **1Th 4:16-18** For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
- ✝ **1Jn 2:28** And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

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**B. Priorities**

**1Co 7:32-35** But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: 33 But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife. 34 There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband. 35 And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.

- ✝ **Living for the imminent return of Christ causes us to evaluate our priorities...what is in our lives that take away from our service to the Lord.**
- ✝ **Here, Paul tells us that a big care is marriage – single people are able to serve the Lord whole-heartedly;**
- ✝ **Married people must care for their spouses and children...there is always a balance!**
- ✝ **This is good marriage counseling, too! Here Paul tells us that our spouses come as a "HIGH PRIORITY!"**

**C. Liberty**

**1Co 7:36-40** But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not **{If the Father is unhappy about marriage arrangements or not happy with the idea of letting his daughter marry – let him do as he wills}**: let them marry. 37 Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well. 38 So then he that giveth her in marriage doeth well; but he that giveth her not in marriage doeth better. 39 The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord. 40 But she is happier if she so abide, after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God.

- ✝ **Finally, we find great liberty given to us through the leading of the Holy Spirit...**
- ✝ **Marriage and life-long singleness are both equally acceptable to the Lord...**

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- † Remember, He puts us there – they are His gifts (going back to the beginning of the chapter) and He has an amazing plan for each of our lives!
- † And again, the bottom line is in abiding in Jesus Christ alone as the corner stone for our lives...

V. Conclusion