

About Marriage II

I Cor 7: 25-40

7/8/01

Intro

- Mexico team
-

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Apparently, the leaders of the church at Corinth had written Paul a letter requesting he answer several important and practical matters about how to live as Christians.

Some had come to the conclusion that in order to live holy before the Lord, it was best to not have any sexual relations at all, even with their spouse.

When we read Paul's response, we, too, get to learn the very practical lessons he intended for them.

Here we learn about God's heart about marriage and relationships.

I. Rest in the Lord.

Vs 27

A. Many singles yearn to be married and many married yearn to be single.

- We need to stop striving.

Illus- Adam went to sleep and God brought a wife. This is a good picture of waiting on the Lord.

Illus- When I was single and so wanted to be married, yet someone shared a great principle. Commit your life to

-serving the Lord and God will bring someone alongside who has the same heart. It was so true.

*** In marriage, also, we need to wait on the Lord and trust Him to work in your marriage for His blessing.*

B. Marriage brings with it many troubles.

Vs 28

- It's the joining together of two sinners.
- Yet I know that God even uses the troubles for His glory.

II. Time is Short.

Vs 29-30

A. Therefore, we should make the Lord a priority.

- Three area where we tend to place our focus:
 - ❖ Relationships (troubles)
 - ❖ Emotions (I want to be happy)
 - ❖ Possessions (I want my stuff)

B. Seek first the Kingdom of God....

- Then all these things will be given unto you. Then you will have:
 - ❖ A blessed marriage
 - ❖ Joy unspeakable
 - ❖ You will be blessed with being satisfied.

- C. We need to stop focusing on what we think we need, and then we'll start to live.

Illus- A true story of a man who died and loved his garden – after he died, the children decided to keep it for him...

Illus- true statistic that men who kiss their wives in the morning;

- *Live five years longer*
- *Have 50% less auto accidents*
- *Earn 30% more income.*

III. God has a role in the Kingdom for both marriage and singleness.

- A. Marriage is a picture of the relationship of Christ and the church.

- For people that won't come to church, God brings the church to them.
- People should see little churches throughout the community.

Illus- Jordi and I were living in a house that our friends were trying to sell. One day the realtor left a note after being there all day...

- B. Singleness is a most blessed position in the church.

- Many singles feel looked down upon.
- Yet Paul gives a truer picture.

- When singles have undivided attention to the Lord, they bless the Lord and the church in great ways!

Illus- In Luke 2: 36-38, we see a single person named Anna. She is an excellent example of devotion to the Lord.

Conclusion

How great is your faith? The whole message in these scriptures is about whether we will operate as a husband, wife, or single person as *devotion to the Lord*.

Have we compartmentalized our faith to the degree that we won't serve Him in the significant areas of our lives?

Unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it.