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Singleness, Marriage, & Calling

I Corinthians 7 | Week Five | Participant Guide

Preparing for the Session

Read: I Corinthians 7:1-40

Memorize: *“Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches.” - I Cor. 7:17*

Looking at the Text

7:1-16

1. Some people assume the Bible takes a negative view of sex, but what do verses 2-5 indicate about sex within Christian marriage?

2. In Roman law, divorce was allowed whether the husband or the wife initiated it, without needing any reason for it at all. How does this compare with the Christian view of marriage?

7:17-24

3. Verses 17-24 mark a clear shift to the topic of calling. Based on your reading of this passage, what do you think Paul is saying about Christian calling?

4. Consider your academic life and your future professional career. How does your calling fit with your studies now? How will it fit with your future career?

7:25-40

5. Paul contrasts being married with being single, but doesn't want to do away with either. How do you think being married or single impacts or will impact your academic studies? Your future job?

6. Paul writes in verse 31, “the present form of this world is passing away.” What do you think he intends to communicate by saying this?

**“Nothing short of God’s call can ground and fulfill the truest human desire for purpose.”
Os Guinness, *The Call***

“Christians in Corinth were surrounded by sexual temptation. The city had a reputation even among pagans for sexual immorality and religious prostitution. It was to this kind of society that Paul delivered these instructions on sex and marriage. The Corinthians needed special, specific instructions because of their culture’s immoral standards.”

Life Application Study Bible