

I CORINTHIANS

Spiritual and Spicy!

Ronnie Norman

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1. The storybook romance only exists in storybook!

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A. Perfect partner vs. fellow
pilgrim.

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1. The storybook romance only exists in storybooks!

A. Perfect partner vs. fellow pilgrim.

B. Fall in love vs. discern whom one can love.

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C. Self-reliance vs. leaning on a
community.

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C. Self-reliance vs. leaning on a community.

D. Grand plans vs. small blessings.

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E. Living happily ever after vs. cherishing the moment.

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¹Now about the questions you asked in your letter. Yes, it is good to live a celibate life. ²But because there is so much sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman should have her own husband.

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³The husband should not deprive his wife of sexual intimacy, which is her right as a married woman, nor should the wife deprive her husband. ⁴The wife gives authority over her body to her husband,

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and the husband also gives authority over his body to his wife.

⁵So do not deprive each other of sexual relations.

2. Marriage is God's antidote
to immorality.

Marital Myth 1:

sex isn't as important in a Christian marriage

Marital Myth 2:

good Christian marriages shouldn't
have exciting sex.

C. S. Lewis

"Christianity has glorified marriage more than any other religion: and nearly all the greatest love poetry in the world has been produced by Christians. If anyone says that sex, in itself, is bad, Christianity contradicts him at once..."

Marital Myth 3:

Spicy Marriages can just “happen naturally.”

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3. Do not be naïve: Satan uses sexual desire against you.

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⁵So do not deprive each other of sexual relations. The only exception to this rule would be the agreement of both husband and wife to refrain from sexual intimacy for a limited time, so they can give themselves

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*more completely to prayer.
Afterward they should come
together again so that Satan won't
be able to tempt them because of
their lack of self-control.*

John 8:44

When (Satan) lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Satan's Plan of Attack

- 1) Lure you from God's Path.
- 2) Train you for Divorce.
- 3) Rob you of Hope.

4. Singleness is a fantastic gift
— but it's not for everybody.

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⁶*This is only my suggestion. It's not meant to be an absolute rule. ⁷I wish everyone could get along without marrying, just as I do. But we are not all the same. God gives some the gift of marriage, and to*

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Others *he* gives the gift of singleness.⁸ Now I say to those who aren't married and to widows--it's better to stay unmarried, just as I am.⁹ But if they can't control themselves, they should go ahead and marry.

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*It's better to marry than to burn
with lust.*

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Helpful Resources:

Website: www.joebeam.com

Book: *A Celebration of Sex* by
Douglas E. Rosenau