

I CORINTHIANS

Single Seasons and Reasons

1 Corinthians Chapter 7

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1. Beginning Thoughts Regarding Singleness

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- A. Marriage and singleness are both viable and honorable options.

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- A. Marriage and singleness are both viable and honorable options.
- B. There are theological, moral and practical implications to your choices regarding marriage and singleness.

1 Corinthians 7:8-9

⁸Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I am.

⁹But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

1 Corinthians 7:25-26

²⁵Now about virgins: I have no command from the Lord, but I give a judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. ²⁶Because of the present crisis, I think that it is good for you to remain as you are.

1 Corinthians 7:27-28

²⁷Are you married? Do not seek a divorce. Are you unmarried? Do not look for a wife. ²⁸But if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. But those who marry will face many troubles in this life, and I want to spare you this.

1 Corinthians 7:29-30

²⁹What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; ³⁰those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep;

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1 Corinthians 7:31

³¹those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

1 Corinthians 7:32-33

³²I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs—how he can please the Lord. ³³But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife—

1 Corinthians 7:34

³⁴and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband.

1 Corinthians 7:35

³⁵I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

1 Corinthians 7:36

³⁶If anyone thinks he is acting improperly toward the virgin he is engaged to, and if she is getting along in years and he feels he ought to marry, he should do as he wants. He is not sinning. They should get married.

1 Corinthians 7:37

³⁷But the man who has settled the matter in his own mind, who is under no compulsion but has control over his own will, and who has made up his mind not to marry the virgin—this man also does the right thing.

1 Corinthians 7:38

³⁸So then, he who marries the virgin does right, but he who does not marry her does even better.

1 Corinthians 7:39-40

³⁹A woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, but he must belong to the Lord. ⁴⁰In my judgment, she is happier if she stays as she is—and I think that I too have the Spirit of God.

2. Words of Encouragement for Single Christians.

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- A. By faith, recognize that God is already at work in you and always will be.

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- A. By faith, recognize that God is already at work in you and always will be.
- B. By faith, refuse to be defined by anything but faithfulness to Christ.

2. Words of Encouragement for Single Christians.

- C. By faith, impact others around you with
the love of Christ.

2 Samuel 1:26

I grieve for you my brother. For you were very dear to me. Your love for me was wonderful, more wonderful than that of women.