

LET'S TALK ABOUT
SEX
"Sex and Singlehood"
April 25, 2010
1 Corinthians 7:1-8 (ESV)
LG Study Guide

Note to SINGLES:

This week's discussion is designed to be helpful for all of us regardless of our marital status. For those who are not married, the insights you glean from this study will help you better prepare for a possible future marriage.

Apostle Paul wrote extensively about sex to the Christians living in Corinth because they were living in a sex-obsessed society. Virtually every sexual practice was tolerated in this place where Aphrodite, the love goddess, was worshiped.

It was not uncommon in Corinthian society for someone to marry 20 times. When Paul taught this church about morals, they wrote back saying, "You don't know where we live." This became such a confusing subject for them that some believed sex was so unspiritual that Christians should never be involved, even in marriage. Paul responded with three instructions about sex in marriage, which we will discuss in this study.

MY STORY

1. If you are married, what was your most important factor in determining when to get married?
2. If you are single, what has been or will be the most important factor in deciding when to get married? Has this week's sermon affect your response to that question? Please explain.
3. For unmarried only: What do you find most challenging about your singlehood? What is the most positive aspect of your singlehood?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Quick Flashback to the Sermon:
Was there a particular point or passage of Scripture that challenged, touched, confused, or disturbed you from this week's sermon?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-8. How can marriage protect us from sexual immorality?

3. Why would sex with your spouse be a duty, and how might it help to look at it that way?
4. Read verses 3-5. What two instructions does Paul give concerning abstinence (v.5)? What would be the consequence of ignoring such instructions?
5. How might deciding to be abstinent for a time help one's prayer?
6. What is the concession mentioned in verse 6 referring to?
7. In what ways would it be better for Christians to be single than married?
8. Despite his clear preference, Paul acknowledged that marriage is just as much of a gift and a blessing from God as celibacy is (v.7). How does seeing our (future) spouse as a gift from God change our attitude toward our sexual relationship?

BRINGING IT HOME

1. In light of this week's study and sermon, in what areas of your life do you need to seek God's grace?
2. Share your prayer requests as well as praise reports for answered prayers from the past.
3. Please continue to share with your group what God has been teaching you through your Life Journal/Devotional.

** LifeGroup Study questions are available for pick up at the Information Center located in the lobby. They are also available online at www.ynccla.org.

** CDs of today's message will be available next Sunday in the YNCC office. Previous weeks' sermon CDs are also available in the office. All sermons are viewable online at www.ynccla.org/sermons.

