

Marriage Matters
1 Corinthians 7



- 1. If you were to survey 100 people in your neighbourhood & workplace asking them what they needed to make them happier, what do you think would be some of the most popular answers (if they were to answer honestly)?**

Read 1 Cor 7

- 2. Paul encourages married couples to have an active sex life and for the unmarried who 'burn with passion' to get married. What is his chief concern by encouraging this?**
- 3. Why might these Corinthians be thinking it is good for a Christian to abstain from sex? In what ways are there still similar attitudes toward Christians & sex today?**
- 4. How does the attitude of yielding and giving to one's spouse sexually stand in contrast to how the world often views sex?**
- 5. What are some of the areas of our life circumstances that we are often eager to change? What are the reasons that Paul gives to 'remain' in one's current circumstance?**

- 6. In vv17-24 what do we discover really counts/is utmost when thinking about our social status and external circumstances? How does a confidence in our Christian identity help us?**

- 7. Where do people often turn to find fulfilment, happiness and contentment? How as Christians can we better remind each other that Jesus is everything we need? (Read Philippians 4:10-13)**

- 8. Re-read vv29-31. Here Paul is calling us to hold loosely to this world because time is short and this world won't last. How might this look like in practical terms in our lives? In what areas could we be doing better at this?**

- 9. Undivided devotion to the Lord is what Paul desires for the Corinthians. What might 'undivided devotion' look like in day-to-day life? In reality, is it true that single people have this undivided devotion? How can we help married people be more 'concerned about the Lord's affairs'?**

- 10. There are many good gifts that God gives his people, marriage, sex and even the gift of singleness are some of these. How do we find the right balance of delighting in these good gifts, but not becoming engrossed in them? (i.e. being 'in the world, but not of it')**