



“To Marry or Not to Marry”

1 Corinthians 7:1-7 (ESV)

1Corinthians 7:1 Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: “It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.” ²But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. ³The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. ⁴For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. ⁵Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. ⁶Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. ⁷I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another.

1. BEING SINGLE AND CELIBATE IS A GOOD THING

1 Corinthians 7:1 Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: “It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.”

2. BEING SINGLE IS NOT FOR EVERYONE

1 Corinthians 7:2 But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband.

A. Premarital sex is prohibited by God for His people.

1 Corinthians 7:36 If anyone thinks that he is not behaving properly toward his betrothed, if his passions are strong, and it has to be, let him do as he wishes: let them marry—it is no sin. ³⁷But whoever is firmly established in his heart, being under no necessity but having his desire under control, and has determined this in his heart, to keep her as his betrothed, he will do well.

- B. Homosexual sex is prohibited by God for His people.
- C. Spouse sharing or swapping is prohibited by God for His people.
- D. Polygamy is prohibited by God for His people.

3. GETTING MARRIED AND ENJOYING SEX IS A GOOD THING

1 Corinthians 7:3 The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. ⁴For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. ⁵Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

- A. In marriage, sex is a right - something we owe our spouses
- B. Our bodies belong to our spouses for their enjoyment
- C. Spouses should not deprive each other
- D. The only exception to regular sexual relations is for spiritual reasons by mutual consent

4. BOTH SINGLENESS AND MARRIAGE SHOULD BE VIEWED AS GIFTS FROM GOD

1 Corinthians 7:6 Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. ⁷I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another.

Bible Reading Plan

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: 1 Pet. 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mon.: 1 Pet. 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tues.: 1 John 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wed.: 1 John 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs.: 1 John 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fri.: 1 John 4 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sat.: 1 John 5 | | <input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Joshua 1 |

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