



#2 Questions & Answers... or Opening a Can of Worms ☺

I Corinthians 7:8-24

1 Corinthians 7:1 Now concerning the matters about which you wrote...

Now that I'm a Christian, is it OK to remain single, or do I need to be married in order to please God?

Being single and abstaining from sex is a good thing. 1 Corinthians 7:1, 7

Is singleness for everybody, then?

No. Some should get married and that is OK, too. 1 Corinthians 7:2

As a Christian married couple, does God want us to stop having sexual relations in order to be more devoted to Him?

No. Give yourself fully and frequently to your spouse. 1 Corinthians 7:3-5

Which is better and more godly for a Christian – to be single or to be married?

Both are good and acceptable to God. 1 Corinthians 7:6-7

I am single again and I've become a Christian. Should I seek to be married again?

1 Corinthians 7:8 To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single as I am. ⁹But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

I'm a Christian and I'm married. Is it OK to divorce my spouse?

1 Corinthians 7:10 To the married I give this charge (not I, but the Lord): the wife should not separate from her husband, ¹¹(but if she does, she should remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband), and the husband should not divorce his wife.

A) Jesus' General Rule of Marriage: **Stay Married**
Matthew 19:3-6; Mark 10:11-12; Luke 16:18

B) The Exception Clause: "except on the grounds of sexual immorality"
Matthew 5:32; Matthew 19:7-9

I'm married and I'm now a Christian, but my spouse is not. Should I divorce them in order not to be defiled by them?

1 Corinthians 7:12 To the rest I say (I, not the Lord) that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her. ¹³If any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she should not divorce him. ¹⁴For the unbelieving husband is made holy because of his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy because of her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy. ¹⁵But if the unbelieving partner separates, let it be so.

In such cases the brother or sister is not enslaved. God has called you to peace. ¹⁶For how do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

Now that I've become a Christian, should I seek to change my situation? Should my newfound devotion to Jesus cause me to try and undo my earlier marital choices, or change my vocation or my station in life?

The General Rule: Remain in the situation you were in when you became saved and strive to be content in that.

1 Corinthians 7:17 Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches... ²⁰Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called... ²⁴So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.

Examples...

A) Jews and Gentiles getting saved

1 Corinthians 7:18 Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision. ¹⁹For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God.

B) Household slaves getting saved

1 Corinthians 7:21 Were you a slave when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.) ²²For he who was called in the Lord as a slave is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a slave of Christ. ²³You were bought with a price; do not become slaves of men. ²⁴So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.

Applications to New Life Church...

1. If you are single or single again...
2. If you deeply desire to be married...
3. If you are seriously contemplating divorcing your spouse...
4. If you are now saved...

Bible Reading Plan

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|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Joshua 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mon.: Joshua 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Tues.: Joshua 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wed.: Joshua 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs.: Joshua 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fri.: Joshua 6 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sat.: Joshua 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Joshua 8 | |

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