

Should I Get Married?

Series: First Corinthians

Bible Text(s) Used: 1 Corinthians 7:1-9ⁱ, 25-28ⁱⁱ, 37ⁱⁱⁱ, Ephesians chapter 5

Marriage Is God's Good Gift

Pastor Mike begins by addressing a misunderstanding that existed in the Corinthian church. Some believers had come to believe that sexual intimacy—even within marriage—was somehow unspiritual or unholy. The apostle Paul corrects this idea directly. He explains that marriage and intimacy between a husband and wife are part of God's good design.

Within the covenant of marriage, intimacy is meant to be a mutual act of love and service. Paul teaches that husband and wife belong to one another in a spirit of humility and care. Marriage is not about one person taking advantage of the other, but about both partners giving themselves sacrificially to each other.

This biblical view was radically different from the surrounding Roman culture, where men often held power over their wives. Paul instead presents a vision of mutual submission, where both husband and wife seek the good of the other.

Reflection Question: How can married couples reflect Christ's love by serving one another with humility and care?

Singleness Is Also a Gift from God

One of the most surprising teachings in 1 Corinthians 7 is that singleness is not a lesser calling than marriage. Paul even says that if possible, he would wish more believers could remain single like he was. This statement would have shocked the first-century world, where marriage was seen as a social obligation.

Paul calls singleness a gift from God just as marriage is a gift. Single believers have a unique opportunity to devote themselves fully to serving Christ without the responsibilities that come with marriage and family.

Pastor Mike reminds the church that the kingdom of God is filled with faithful single believers who serve powerfully. Singleness is not a waiting room for real life. It is a meaningful and honorable calling when lived in devotion to Christ.

Reflection Question: How can believers embrace their current season of life as an opportunity to serve God faithfully?

Cultural Pressure vs. God's Perspective

Pastor Mike also explains that both ancient culture and modern society place enormous pressure on people to marry. In the Roman world, marriage and children were considered duties to the state. In today's world, movies, media, and social expectations often present romance as the ultimate path to happiness.

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The problem with this thinking is that it asks human relationships to provide what only God can give. When we expect romance or marriage to give us identity, fulfillment, and ultimate meaning, we place unrealistic pressure on those relationships.

Scripture reminds us that our deepest identity is found in Christ alone. Whether married or single, our worth and purpose come from being loved and called by God.

Reflection Question: In what ways can believers guard their hearts from seeking ultimate fulfillment in relationships instead of Christ?

The Real Question: What Is Your Mission?

Pastor Mike concludes by shifting the focus away from the question “Should I get married?” to a deeper spiritual question: “How can I serve Christ most faithfully in this season of my life?”

Marriage and singleness are not about status or spiritual superiority. They are simply different callings. A married person may serve God through family life and relationships, while a single person may have unique freedom to devote time and energy directly to ministry and mission.

The goal is not simply to find happiness but to live with a life that is “laser-focused” on Christ. Just as a laser concentrates light into a powerful beam, a life devoted to Christ can become incredibly effective when focused on God’s mission.

Reflection Question: How can you live a more focused life devoted to Christ's mission right now?

Closing Thought

Marriage is a beautiful gift from God, but so is singleness. The Bible reminds us that our ultimate purpose is not defined by our relationship status but by our devotion to Christ. Whether married or single, God calls each believer to live faithfully, love deeply, and serve His kingdom with focus and purpose. When our lives are centered on Christ, every season becomes meaningful and fruitful in His hands.

ⁱ ⁷ Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: “It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.” ² But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. ³ The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. ⁴ For 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. ⁵ Do 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. ⁶ Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. ⁷ I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another. ⁸ To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. ⁹ But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

ⁱⁱ ²⁵ Now concerning *(The expression Now concerning introduces a reply to a question in the Corinthians' letter; see 7:1)* the betrothed, *(virgins)* I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. ²⁶ I think that in view of the present *(impending)* distress it is good for a person to remain as he is. ²⁷ Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. ²⁸ But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman

(virgin in Greek; also verse 34) marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that.

iii ³⁷ But 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.