

1st Corinthians 7:17-40

Unmarried Christians

1 Corinthians 7:17-40 NKJV –

17 But as God has distributed to each one, as the Lord has called each one, so let him walk. And so I ordain in all the churches.

18 Was anyone called while circumcised? Let him not become uncircumcised. Was anyone called while uncircumcised? Let him not be circumcised.

19 Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but keeping the commandments of God is what matters.

1 Corinthians 7:17-40 NKJV –

20 Let each one remain in the same calling in which he was called.

21 Were you called while a slave? Do not be concerned about it; but if you can be made free, rather use it.

22 For he who is called in the Lord while a slave is the Lord's freedman. Likewise he who is called while free is Christ's slave.

1 Corinthians 7:17-40 NKJV –

23 You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.

24 Brethren, let each one remain with God in that state in which he was called.

25 Now concerning virgins: I have no commandment from the Lord; yet I give judgment as one whom the Lord in His mercy has made trustworthy.

1 Corinthians 7:17-40 NKJV –

26 I suppose therefore that this is good because of the present distress--that it is good for a man to remain as he is:

27 Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be loosed. Are you loosed from a wife? Do not seek a wife.

28 But even if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Nevertheless such will have trouble in the flesh, but I would spare you.

1 Corinthians 7:17-40 NKJV –

29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short, so that from now on even those who have wives should be as though they had none,

30 those who weep as though they did not weep, those who rejoice as though they did not rejoice, those who buy as though they did not possess,

31 and those who use this world as not misusing it. For the form of this world is passing away.

1 Corinthians 7:17-40 NKJV –

32 But I want you to be without care. He who is unmarried cares for the things of the Lord--how he may please the Lord.

33 But he who is married cares about the things of the world--how he may please his wife.

1 Corinthians 7:17-40 NKJV –

34 There is a difference between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman cares about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit. But she who is married cares about the things of the world--how she may please her husband.

35 And this I say for your own profit, not that I may put a leash on you, but for what is proper, and that you may serve the Lord without distraction.

1 Corinthians 7:17-40 NKJV –

36 But if any man thinks he is behaving improperly toward his virgin, if she is past the flower of youth, and thus it must be, let him do what he wishes. He does not sin; let them marry.

37 Nevertheless he who stands steadfast in his heart, having no necessity, but has power over his own will, and has so determined in his heart that he will keep his virgin, does well.

1 Corinthians 7:17-40 NKJV –

38 So then he who gives her in marriage does well, but he who does not give her in marriage does better.

39 A wife is bound by law as long as her husband lives; but if her husband dies, she is at liberty to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.

40 But she is happier if she remains as she is, according to my judgment--and I think I also have the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 7 Question

- Principles of Singleness and Marriage
(**1 Cor. 7:1–9**)
- Christians Marriages
(**1 Cor. 7:10–24**)
- Unmarried Christians
(**1 Cor. 7:25–40**)

1. Marriage is sacred, serious, and designed to represent the Gospel.
2. Live as you are called.
3. Define success as obedience not a relationship status.

Other Marriages passages:

1. Genesis 1-3
2. Mal. 2:14–16
3. Matt. 5:31f.; 19:3–12; Mark 10:9–12; Luke 16:18
4. Ephesians 5
5. Colossians 3
6. 1st Peter 3

1 Corinthians 7

Consider the times and the time. (v. 17–31)

Marriage brings responsibilities (v. 32–35).

Each situation is unique (v. 36–38).

Don't rush, marriage is for life (v. 39–40).

Consider the times and the time. (v. 17–31)

Live as you're called...

“Wherever you are, be all there! Live to the hilt every situation you believe to be the will of God.” — Jim Elliot

Consider the times and the time. (v. 17–31)

Do not become slaves of men...

"Do not follow even good men slavishly. Do not say, 'I am of Paul; I am of Apollos; I am of Calvin; I am of Wesley.' Did Calvin redeem you? Did Wesley die for you? Who is Calvin and who is Wesley but ministers by whom ye believed as the Lord gave unto you? Do not so surrender yourself to any leadership that you rather follow the man than his Master. I will follow anybody if he goes Christ's way, but I will follow nobody, by the grace of God, if he does not go in that direction." -Spurgeon

Consider the times and the time. (v. 17–31)

Time is short...

Matthew 24:42-44 NKJV - "Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. "But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into.

"Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Consider the times and the time. (v. 17–31)
as though they had none...

Three Obstacles of Obedience

1. Relationships

2. Emotions

3. Possessions

Marriage brings responsibilities (v. 32–35).

Without care...

Care = μεριμνάω merimnáō, = anxious

Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV - 6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Each case is individual (v. 36–38).

Good, better, best...

Pray, get godly counsel.

Don't rush, marriage is for life (v. 39–40).

There are blessings and barriers of both marriage and single.

Singleness is not to be looked down upon, dreaded, or merely endured.

Serve the Lord with spontaneity and without distraction.

“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.”

Numbers 6:24-26 (NKJV)