DISCUSSION GUIDE



"Sex and Marriage - Part 2" Corinthians Are U.S. Pastor Bryan James April 21, 2024

WELCOME & WORSHIP Meet at the front of Sanctuary.

WORD <u>1 Corinthians 7:17-40</u>

- 1. What stood out to you the most in the message? Why?
- 2. Read 1 Corinthians 7:17-24. Why does Paul instruct that each person should remain in the situation they were in when God called them?
 - As we obey our calling, what is one of the top idols we must be aware of and be prepared to lay at the altar?
- **3. Read verses 25-35.** Discuss the complexities and dynamics of Paul's instruction/advice here vs. when it is a command—how should we properly receive it as the hearer?

4. What is the 'present crisis' that Paul is referring to?

Do you think we live with this urgency today? Why or why not? (Take time to consider Paul's words, but with the same zeal and urgency he has for Jesus' coming.)

- 5. **Read verses 36-40.** What is Paul saying here and how is he helping those who are in Christ have proper understanding and right perspective, whether called to celibacy or to marriage?
- 6. "Anointed advice" from the Spirit of God (v.40)—What was the advice given to those who are single, those already married, those widowed, or divorced (whether legitimately or not—it is nailed to the Cross)?
 - Share your thoughts: How did this help give right perspective/proper understanding as we aim to correctly encourage one another in God's Word in our circumstances?
- **7. Application.** What is your biggest takeaway from Sunday's message? How can you faithfully respond?

WITNESS Think about the "situation" you were in when God called you into His light and his grace to meet you exactly where you were and to redeem it. Spend time in thanksgiving and praise! Commit to sharing the goodness of God in your life with someone this week.