

1 CORINTHIANS

Characteristics of a healthy church

Chapter 7 pt.2

An aerial photograph of the Colosseum in Rome, Italy, showing the iconic elliptical structure and its tiered seating. The image is overlaid with a dark red, semi-transparent filter. The text is centered over the middle of the arena.

I Corinthians

7:1-9

Scriptures to have in mind:

- ★ **Genesis 1:27-31, 2:15-25**
- ★ **Matthew 5:27-28, 19:1-12, 22:30**
- ★ **Ephesian 5:21-33**
- ★ **Luke 12: 51-53**
- ★ **Hebrews 13:4-5**
- ★ **I Timothy 6:6**

Matters of Review:

- ★ Marriage is a this world issue - marry or don't...marriage is an example to the world
- ★ Singleness & Marriage is a gift - don't burn

An aerial view of an ancient Roman amphitheater, showing the tiered seating and the central arena. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark red filter. The text is centered over the middle of the image.

I Corinthians

7:10-16

1 Corinthians 7:10-16

- ★ As in our day divorce was a big deal in the church - today divorce among believers is at equal levels with the non believing world...this should not be!
- ★ Note: "not I, but the Lord" (Matt. 19)
- ★ (Eph. 5) Marriage = picture of Christ to the church - How are we being a light or showing the world something different?
 - Jesus - said "your hearts are hard"

1 Corinthians 7:10-16

- I personally believe marriages can be reconciled even when there is solid biblical qualification for divorce
- Yet, if there is not an unwillingness to do the work required or fully forgive...it does more harm than good to be a zealot.
- When there is true abuse or criminal activity and especially with children involved, you should not remain!

1 Corinthians 7:10-16

- I have encountered over the years many people who have hardened their hearts and have no legitimate reason to divorce...yet do things to try to sabotage the relationship in such a way as to gain biblical grounds or look for pastoral approval - NOT OK
- ★ Obviously conversion can create a problem (Lk 12)

1 Corinthians 7:10-16

- ★ Hear Paul's heart and realize peace is always the goal
- ★ Again we don't stay married at the expense of children...especially if there is something criminal or illegal
- ★ Need to have God's heart for salvation & reconciliation always!
- ★ What's the deal about the kids & the sanctification thing?

1 Corinthians 7:17-24

- ★ **When we repent and are saved you are a new creation in Christ...external environmental changes don't accomplish this in a person**
 - **The Jew doesn't become a Gentile or vice versa = salvation**
 - **Just cause Jesus said your free(spiritually) doesn't mean you stop doing your job as a slave or try to escape...ex. Book of Philemon**

1 Corinthians 7:17-24

- **Maybe I get saved as a business man, it doesn't mean now I am required to drop everything and be a pastor or missionary**
- **Paul says, be changed, but remain in the situation in which you were when God called you...then be obedient as God leads.**
- **No we don't continue in things that are contrary to God's commands...**

Example - Naaman, commander of Aram's Army:

**"18 But may the Lord forgive your servant for this one thing:
When my master enters the temple of Rimmon to bow down,
he is leaning on my arm and I bow there also - when I bow
down in the temple of Rimmon, may the Lord forgive your
servant for this."**

2 Kings 5:18 NIV

1 Corinthians 7:17-24

- ★ Paul reminds us again, we are bought with a price and responsible to the Lord and really his slave.
- ★ As he says, how do you know if you might not have an opportunity to be apart of your spouse's salvation? or maybe even in your boss' life?

1 Corinthians 7:25-40

- ★ We gain some important qualifiers for what the Lord is wanting us to hear from this chapter
- ★ Though he is saying singleness is better, to marry is not a sin
- ★ v.24 is the Key: Marriage comes with it's own unique trials and troubles - contrary to what the world says or what we conjure in our own minds!

1 Corinthians 7:25-40

- ★ **Time is short - we need to have an eternal/heavenly mindset**
 - **Paul is not telling us to contradict scripture by ignoring our wives, but calling us to be concerned with Lord's affairs...put God first!**
 - **Like Austin said - to be less inward focused & more outward focused! - less concerned for things of this world!**



**Family can become an
idol...or something that is put
before God and worshipped.**



1 Corinthians 7:25-40

- We need an "it's all gonna burn mentality" with the stuff of this world
- Jesus' return is imminent, we can't waste time or be caught up in the stuff of self or this world...depressed about what we do or don't have
- ★ Paul's heart for the single - free from married concerns to focus on the Lord...pleasing him!



Need to be heavenly minded!



1 Corinthians 7:25-40

- ★ Think about when persecution comes or hard times?
- ★ v.35 - The heart here is not to restrict, but bring freedom & our good!
- ★ Though is speaking in very practical terms, he is speaking from the mind and heart of God through the Spirit

Chap. 7:

- ★ Marriage is a this world issue - marry or don't, but marriage an example to the world
- ★ Singleness & Marriage is a gift - don't burn
- ★ God is not down with divorce
- ★ Remain in the situation God has called you or assigned to you - Be content
- ★ Marriage comes with troubles
- ★ Time is short - be concerned with Lord's affairs & not consumed by worldly affairs

The Healthy Church

- 1. Keep the main thing, the main thing! = Jesus (His death, his resurrection)**
- 2. The Gospel = wisdom of God & the power of God**
- 3. Holy Spirit = Key to growth & transformation work in the you & the church!**
- 4. Strives for , righteousness, holiness & purity**