

# W Consider Your Impact

Week of Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>  
1 Cor. 7:25-40

While family and friends may put pressure on individuals to pursue marriage, the apostle Paul encourages individuals to consider how they can best use their lives in service of Christ. In some cases, remaining single allows for greater dedication to Christian ministry and should be encouraged and celebrated within the life of the church.

1. Read 1 Corinthians 7:25-31. Paul urges us to have an undivided devotion to the Lord. He reminds us that it's ministry that matters most, not marriage.
  - When you keep your heart set on eternity, how does that impact your perspective on marriage, emotions, possessions and success? (vs. 29-31)
  - Does the way you spend your time point to an undivided devotion to God? In what ways?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 7:32-35. Here Paul is elevating and esteeming singleness because it *can* make it easier to have an undivided devotion to the Lord.
  - In what ways can marriage make it more difficult to have an undivided devotion to God?
  - Being single doesn't guarantee an undivided devotion. In what ways can singles struggle to have an undivided devotion to God?
  - If you're single currently, do you see it as an opportunity to serve the Lord with less distractions? How could you take advantage of this opportunity?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 7:36-40. Here Paul addresses two specific situations – one of an engaged man and one of a woman who has lost her husband. Both are free to marry again, but Paul thinks it would be “even better” (vs. 38) or “happier” (vs. 40) for them to stay single.
  - Pastor Josh encouraged anyone who is single to first consider this question before getting married – will getting married allow me to have greater kingdom impact than staying single? In what ways does this question go against our culture? In what ways could it impact the way we view singleness and singles?
4. As we enter this Advent season, in what practical ways could you focus your devotion more fully on Christ?

For singles or anyone who wants to understand the joys and struggles of singleness, you can listen to the latest Woodmen Social podcast where Kurt hosts a few singles to talk about singleness and the church. [www.woodmenvalley.org/podcast](http://www.woodmenvalley.org/podcast)

For resources as we live out this radical calling - [www.woodmenvalley.org/relationshipresources](http://www.woodmenvalley.org/relationshipresources)

## NOTES:

# OTHER RESOURCES

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## READY TO GO DEEPER?

### New Testament Reading

Many of us started this reading plan on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. If you haven't jumped in yet, it's not too late.

Here's the specific passages for this week. You can find all the details for the reading plan and an optional podcast that explains each day's reading at

[www.woodmenvalley.org/bible](http://www.woodmenvalley.org/bible)

Join us on your Woodmen campus FB page to hear what people are sharing about what they are learning.

Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> – Acts 18-19

Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> – 1 Corinthians 1-4

Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> – 1 Corinthians 5-8

Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> – 1 Corinthians 9-11

Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> – 1 Corinthians 12-14

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 1 Corinthians 15-16

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> – 2 Corinthians 1-4

As you read or listen, consider the following...

- What do I learn about God and His character?
  - What do I learn about His heart for unity?
    - What promises can you cling to?
- What is He encouraging you to believe, think or do?

## Outside our Walls

### Gift of Love

Even during 2020, our Gift of Love Celebration can help make Christmas special for families in need. Together we'll provide an affordable Christmas for moms and dads, boys and girls across the Pikes Peak region.

To keep folks healthy we've made a few changes, but you can take part by shopping for a new Christmas gift or two and **bringing them by your Woodmen campus on the weekend of Dec. 5 and 6. From 11 AM to 3 PM** that Saturday and Sunday, we'll have volunteers ready at each campus to greet you as you drive-through and drop-off donations. You can also order gifts online or donate during the week at Rockrimmon and Woodmen Heights.

<https://woodmenvalley.org/giftoflove>

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## DIVE IN ON YOUR OWN TO GET READY FOR NEXT WEEKEND

*Cleansed and Commissioned*

Isaiah 6:1-13