

# A Beautiful Mess: Week 8

July 7, 2019

**Scriptures:** 1 Corinthians 7:8-40

**Bottom Line:** The Holy Spirit guides us in rethinking every aspect of our lives through the filter of the Kingdom of God—including singleness, marriage, and divorce.

*We're reading someone else's mail.*

## 1 Corinthians 7:8-40

Singleness is a meaningful and honourable path in life

Live with the end in mind ("remain as you are").

You can maintain a healthy marriage if only one of you is a follower of Jesus . . . but it would be wise not to enter a new marriage like this.

Paul introduces a new grounds for divorce—if an unbeliever separates from a believing spouse.

Remarriage was the acceptable, and expected next step after divorce occurred on biblical grounds.

The Holy Spirit gives us wisdom to know how to live out the reality of the Kingdom of God today.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Appetizer

1. Review Sunday's message. What stood out to you? What challenged you? Are there any lingering questions?
2. Have you ever read someone else's mail (or equivalent)? Was there anything you didn't understand?

### Entree

1. What is the experience of single people in the Church today? How can we make the Church more accepting of those who are not married? What hurdles stand in the way?
2. How does knowing that you're going to live forever with Jesus influence your decisions today?
3. What have you been taught about divorce and remarriage previously? How did this message's teaching either reinforce or challenge your beliefs?
4. Do you agree that remarriage is acceptable if the divorce occurs on Biblical grounds (e.g. adultery, neglect, abuse, desertion)? Why, why not?

### Dessert

Break into groups of 3-5 and discuss the following questions together.

1. Are you "living with the end in mind?" What would you change about your life if you lived out of the knowledge that you are going to live forever with Jesus?
2. What can you do this week?

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