

Small Group Study Questions

April 7, 2019

I STILL DO!

1 Corinthians 7:10-16

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Big idea: Marriage and relationships can be a very difficult and sensitive topic. When we are confronted with the truth of God's word, we always see areas of our life that do not meet up to His standard. This is not a hopeless situation, because God offers forgiveness, healing and restoration for our brokenness through Jesus Christ.

Looking at this topic, identify ways that you can prepare your life for a future relationship, find strength and resolve to move forward honoring Christ in your relationships, find hope and reconciliation, or find healing and forgiveness for your past.

Read 1 Corinthians 7:10-16 and while you do, underline, circle or highlight key words in the text.

How do Paul's statements "to the married" (10-11) affirm what the Lord had already taught (see Mark 10:2-12)?

In 12-16 Paul discusses a situation not covered by the Lord—marriages between Christians and non-Christians. Why might a Christian be tempted to divorce a non-Christian?

According to Paul, what are some benefits of remaining in a mixed marriage? Explain.

Under what circumstances would Paul seemingly allow for divorce, and why (15-16)?

Why is Paul's instruction here not an "easy way out"?

What principles from this passage could help us care for Christians who are considering separation or divorce?

Most groups today have someone who is separated or divorced. Almost every group has children of divorced parents. The sensitivity and grace of Jesus is needed in approaching these questions without compromising Scripture. A compassionate heart is the key to accepting people who have broken God's Word or who are victims of a fallen world.

How can you come alongside someone and minister to their physical, emotional and spiritual needs and yet hold strong to the principles of God's teaching and design for marriage?

Take a few minutes to pray. Ask God to help you discipline in the direction of your hope and resolve to live in a way that honors Him. Pray also for those that God lays on your heart to strengthen their personal walk with Christ, marriage and other relationships.