

Sermon Discussion Questions for:
My Own: Comments on Marriage
I Cor. 7:1-16



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Small Group Discussion Questions:

1. Does Paul believe that marriage helps with resisting the temptation to sexual immorality?
2. How so?
3. When he speaks of “conjugal rights” to what does he refer? Why does he have to instruct the partners on this? Do you think this idea, as Paul states it, is culturally or politically correct? Why or why not?
4. In verse 7 when Paul says, “ I wish that all were as I myself am.” What does he mean?
5. Would you say that Paul, in this passage Paul esteems and supports marriage? Why does he? Why do you?

1 Corinthians 7:1-16 (ESV)

¹Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: “It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.” ²But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. ³The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. ⁴For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. ⁵Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. ⁶Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. ⁷I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another. ⁸To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single as I am. ⁹But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion. ¹⁰To the married I give this charge (not I, but the Lord): the wife should not separate from her husband ¹¹(but if she does, she should remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband), and the husband should not divorce his wife. ¹²To the rest I say (I, not the Lord) that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her. ¹³If any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she should not divorce him. ¹⁴For the unbelieving husband is made holy because of his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy because of her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy. ¹⁵But if the unbelieving partner separates, let it be so. In such cases the brother or sister is not enslaved. God has called you to peace. ¹⁶For how do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

Remember leaders: these are only suggested questions and ideas. Trust the Lord to guide and direct you, because He loves you, in any way the Spirit leads!