

Meditations on the Message

Sunday: March 6, 2016. Marriage & Singleness

Text: **1 Corinthians 7**

Re-read the above text and consider the following thoughts and questions:

1. How does rooting your identity firmly in Jesus free you from being a needy person? How does that freedom translate into the ability to serve others without needing returns? How should a union with Jesus, and the identity that comes from that, influence a marriage between a Christian couple?
2. In verses 1-5 we read that husbands and wives submit to the authority of the other. (Just as Jesus has authority over the Church, the wife has authority over her husband, and likewise the husband over the wife)
How should equality, mutuality and intimacy play out in beautiful and selfless ways in a marriage context?
What are the challenges to that being implemented?
3. What are the specific advantages and challenges of being single?
What are the specific advantages and challenges of being married?
How should God *gifting* singleness, and *gifting* marriage, change our thoughts, attitudes and behaviors toward being single; toward being married?
4. According to the text, Christ should be on display in the life of a believing spouse (whether married to another believer, or to an unbeliever).
What are the challenges found in a marriage relationship between a Christian and a non-Christian? How are those challenges different over that of a Christian couple? How does a believer (whether a spouse or even a child) uniquely set-apart the home for gospel influence?
5. How does your understanding of God, Jesus, the truths of Scripture influence your views of marriage, singleness and sex? How are those views different from your surrounding culture?

Main Message: Whether married or single, live out your devotion to Jesus.