# Celibacy, Marriage, and Sexual Immorality

1 Corinthian 7

## It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman

Yes when it comes to sexual immorality

No when it comes to marriage

## If sex is good - What is Sexual Immorality?

Heb 13:4 ESV Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

## The place of sex in marriage

Sex is not to be withheld

Sex is exclusive

## The Calling to be Single

Singleness is not a command Singleness is a gift Self control is required Sex drive is addressed by marriage or self control NOT sexual immorality

#### Self Control

1Th 4:2-8 ESV For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. 3 For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each one of you know how to control his own body in holiness and honor, 5 not in the passion of lust like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 that no one transgress and wrong his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, as we told you beforehand and solemnly warned you. 7 For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 8 Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

## The Permanence of Marriage

Why? - We have the spirit of Christ, the wisdom of Christ, the mind of Christ

In theory, EVERY PROBLEM CAN BE WORKED OUT

#### Married to an Unbeliever

There is an eternal purpose for this relationship - don't lose sight of it

#### Power of Contentment

The grass is not always greener on the other side of the fence

Lead the life the LORD has assigned

Whatever condition - remain with God

#### Practical Advice

This section must be understood in context with the phrase "in view of the present distress"

## Priority of Christ in Our Life

To secure your undivided devotion to the LORD

#### Betrothed?

Marry or remain single

Once again, marriage or self-contr0l are God's solution, not sexual immorality

#### Freedom / Restrictions

You are free to drive a car, but you must do it within the restrictions of the law

If you marry, marry in the LORD