



WORSHIP

When I Look Into Your Holiness, Forever, Your Love Never Fails, One God, Goodness of God

WELCOME

From where or how did you first learn about sex?

WORD

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

³² But I want you to be free from concern. One who is unmarried is concerned about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord; ³³ but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, ³⁴ and his interests are divided. The woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she may please her husband. ³⁵ This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure something very undistracted devotion to the Lord.

We're getting all sorts of junk from the wrong sources when it comes to sex and anything of that nature, and they're creating confusion and brokenness in us. We need to do something different to make it right!

For many of us we've been viewing the world a certain way. Starting today, we'd like to look at it FRESH—a fresh new clearer way to view things in our life especially on sex, marriage, and relationships that Paul unpacks in **1 Corinthians 7**.

I. FIX SEX MINDSET (1 Corinthians 7:1-5)

Something very ugly was happening in the Corinthian church. It was decadent and immoral. There was immorality among them that does not even exist among the Gentiles. The Christians were doing things even unheard of. Scholars said there was not just premarital sex, fornication, adultery, and homosexuality; but even polygamy and concubinage.

Paul says that to fix our mindset regarding sex it's actually good to control your sexual urges (**v.1**). It's not "if you feel it, just go for it" which is what was happening. He also reminds them that sex is actually a beautiful thing but in the right context (**v.2**). The beautiful design of sex is supposed to happen in the context of one man and one woman who are married.

For those who are married, sex is actually a responsibility or duty (**v.3**). You are obligated to give that to your partner because it's done in that beautiful context (**v.4**). Depriving one another is not biblical and not holy (**v.5**). Just because you've had all those past experiences doesn't mean that God cannot make sex holy,

beautiful, pure, and wonderful in the context of marriage. Sex in marriage is also there to protect you. Part of the way you can protect yourselves is to have sex. **Song of Solomon 4:9-11** and **Genesis 2:24-25** show how beautiful sex is in the context of marriage.

II. RESTORE PURITY (1 Corinthians 7:7-9)

Paul is saying to singles to be content and complete in their current state because it is a calling (**v.7a**). His second thought for them is to stay pure (**v.7b**). God gives to a single person a gift to remain sexually pure.

Paul also said to the young Timothy to stay pure (**2 Timothy 2:21-22**). Remember not to journey in this alone. Make sure to be surrounded with people who have the same desire. Be part of a discipleship group. If you really want to experience victory in the area of purity, do not focus on the problem. Focus on the solution—Jesus Christ. Love and serve Him!

To restore purity, God provides an escape when you are tempted (**1 Corinthians 10:13**).

4Ws WHAT'S WRONG WITH US?

F.R.E.S.H LOOK

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

WORD

III. SANCTIFY OTHERS (1 Corinthians 7:10-16)

Clearly, there is no divorce if you are married (**vv.10-13**). Stay. Do not leave. To elevate the perspective, the reason you should stay with an unbelieving spouse is because this is an opportunity to sanctify (**v.14**). Sanctify means to make holy. As you've come to Christ, you are pure. You have been set apart. You have the opportunity to also help them come to that point. You don't make them holy by being married to them. God makes them holy but we have the opportunity to bless them by helping them come to know the same Jesus that changed your life. This is why you stay.

Paul is stretching our thoughts. It is not just your spouse but there's a powerful opportunity for you to sanctify your children. A word of warning: if you are not yet married, do not marry someone who's not a believer (**2 Corinthians 6:14**).

Jesus elevates it even further and that is to sanctify others or to be a blessing to others (**Philippians 2:3-4**).

IV. HAVE "UNDISTRACTED DEVOTION" (1 Corinthians 7:29-35)

Paul elevates the whole conversation beyond marriage and sex giving us fresh lenses. If we are to elevate our perspective, the things we have or the marriage we have are really not that important because the world is passing away (**vv.29-31**). Paul's heart for the Corinthians and for us today is that he wants us to be free of concerns (**vv. 32-34**). For our own benefit, he wants to bless us and not restrain, to promote what is appropriate, and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord (**v.35**). Devotion means to "sit well beside".

How is your soul? Have you been so busy you have no time for Jesus and so distracted with so many cares, challenges, and worries? Jesus is inviting us to sit with Him, have a FRESH look and see things from His perspective.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. Self-Check.

How will I fix and heal my broken views of sex?

2. Setting It Right.

What will I do better to stay pure?

3. Living It Out.

Who can I sanctify today? How?

4. What can I do to strengthen my devotion to Jesus?

WORKS

PRAY CARE SHARE IN ACTION

Pray for people who have a distorted view of sex, marriage, or relationships to really seek God as their ultimate pleasure and satisfaction in life. Help one another to live a holy life. Share the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to family and others.

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives.

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of public servants; repentance and salvation for government leaders and citizens for a Christ-centered Philippines.
- God's help and comfort, salvation for people who experienced devastating earthquake, grappling with floods and wildfires that destroyed homes and businesses, lost loved ones.
- War in Ukraine to end, loss of lives prevented; conflict in African, East Asian and Middle East countries to stop.

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples.
- Elders, pastors, leaders, and families (holy, humble, harmonious, happy, heart-working).
- Ministries and churches expansion worldwide.

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God.
- Righteous living.
- Salvation of family and friends.

MEMORY VERSE

1 CORINTHIANS 7:35

³⁵ This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord.