

Women's Bible Study

Study Questions for February 22, 2017

Unity in Marriage ~ Angie Pankratz

1 Corinthians 7

1. Because of the wording of the first verse, we can assume that the church of Corinth was unclear on certain issues and had written Paul for clarification. Under what circumstances have you sought the guidance of a specific person and were you satisfied with the answers you received? What does Job 12:12, Prov. 1:7, Psalms 37:30, James 1:5 and 2 Timothy 3:16-17 say about where to find wisdom?
2. For Corinthian husbands who were so wedded to their own rights verse 7 would have been shocking words to them. Do you think our culture today upholds the values of "oneness" in marriage described in this verse and Genesis 2:24? How about within the Church?
3. As a minister of the Gospel, Paul views his "singleness" as a gift. How do you think Paul's ministry would have changed had he been married? Do you think he would still be considered one of the greatest missionaries of all time? In light of that, do you think that the Church instead of feeling sorry for singles, should celebrate more the "gift" that they have?
4. Rewrite in your own words verse 17. Is there ever a time when we should "leave" the place in life that God has "assigned" us? Consider Matthew, the Tax Collector or someone working in Hollywood today...What are the benefits of staying in your "assignment" and what would be biblical reasons for leaving?
5. In response to a letter written to him, Paul's intent in chapter 7 was to be realistic on the expectations of marriage. Read Proverbs 5:18, Proverbs 12:4 and Genesis 2:18. Do these verses contradict the passage we read today!?

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1. Clearly we find out in the first verse that the Church of Corinth is unclear on certain issues and so they decide to send Paul a letter full of questions. Do you have someone in your life that you can ask **any** question? What qualities does that type of friend have?

2. 1 Corinthians 7:4 brings a message that seems counter cultural today. Within the confines of marriage how can considering our bodies "not our own" be beneficial? Taken to an extreme how can a verse like this be interpreted incorrectly?

3. Paul views his singleness as a gift. Would you agree with him? Why or why not?

4. Read verse 17 again. Where in life has God assigned you? How does being a believer where God has assigned you change how you do your work compared to an unbeliever in the same "assignment?"

5. In this chapter, Paul gives a very realistic view of marriage. How do you think Christians today can give an unrealistic view of marriage to those who are single? What are the dangers with that?