

# Called to Contentment Together: A Study of 1 Corinthians

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**Key Truth:** God calls us to glorify him by being content in our circumstances.

Many people view marriage as a prison to be escaped rather than a relationship to be enjoyed. Of course, marriage is not always heavenly, but it is Good in God's eyes. Therefore, in marriage and any other circumstance we find ourselves in, God calls us to be content. He's placed us in that situation for our good, for others' blessing, and for His glory.

## DISCUSS

Read **1 Corinthians 7:10-24** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon on being **Called to Contentment**.

## DIG IN

### 1. Called to be a Peacemaker in Marriage. (vv. 10-17)

What is the charge Paul gives in verses 10 & 11? Why is it important to focus on the *rule* rather than the exceptions to the rule?

In verses 12-16 Paul discusses "mixed marriages." Describe why these types of marriages occurred in the 1st century and why do they occur today?

What is the benefit of a believing spouse remaining with the unbelieving spouse (see verse 14)?

In what ways should a believer live in peace with their unbelieving spouse, even if the unbeliever chooses to leave (v. 15)?

In what ways can a believing spouse seek to evangelize their unbelieving spouse?

### 2. Called to be Obedient despite our Religious Heritage. (vv. 18-20)

In verses 18-20 Paul appears to be exhorting the Corinthian Christians not to try to change their religious past (either as Jews or as Gentiles). What might be a contemporary example of this problem?

### 3. Called to be Free in Bondage. (vv. 21-24)

Does Paul condone slavery in verses 21-24? Why or why not?

Under what circumstances should someone escape their present circumstances (see verse 21)?

What means does God provide the Christian so they can choose to be content in their present circumstances (see verse 24)?

## DO

In what ways have you struggled with contentment recently? What are some things you learn in this passage that help you to endure?