Undivided Devotion
Together: A Study of 1 Corinthians

Pastor Tim Allen

Key Truth: In these distressing times, marriage is not bad, but if you can remain single, you should.

In the Church, we should not suggest that there's something missing or incomplete about being single. A single person is one, and a married couple is one. There is wholeness in both these states of being. In this Scripture Passage, Paul focuses on the goodness of singleness, and really states that "in view of the present distress" (v. 26), it is good for a single person to remain single.

DISCUSS

Read 1 Corinthians 7:25-40 and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the sermon on **Undivided Devotion**.

DIG IN

In what circumstances can either singleness or marriage be considered good? In what circumstances can they be considered bad?

1. **Singleness helps to secure freedom from Worldly Troubles.**

    (vv. 25-31)

In verses 25-31, How does Paul describe the difficult circumstances of life? In what ways are those difficulties true today?

In what ways might being single help that person avoid "worldly troubles?"

2. **Singleness helps to secure Undivided Devotion to Christ.**

    (vv. 32-35)

Read vv. 32-34: Restate in your own words what Paul is saying in these verses.

In what ways would a married person naturally have divided interests (v. 34)? In what ways does singleness help secure undivided devotion to Christ (v. 35)?

In what ways can a person fully devoted to Christ naturally be a happier person than someone with divided interests?

3. **Singleness helps to secure Happiness in present circumstances.**

    (vv. 36-40)

In verses 36-38, does Paul teach that it is wrong for an engaged couple to get married? Why or why not?

According to verse 39, what is the condition Paul places on a widowed person getting married? Why is that important?

Is it wrong to pursue one's own happiness in life (see v. 40)? Why or why not?

DO

As a group, discuss ways that FBC can minister to single people in the coming year.

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