

What about Marriage?

I. Self-Control (1-9)

Marriage is God's provision for meeting physical intimacy needs.

Celibacy and times of prayer are good reasons for abstinence.

II. Saving Others (10-16)

God's desire for His people in difficult marriages is to focus on reconciliation and godly influence.

III. Satisfaction (17-24)

Your calling is contentedness to follow and serve Christ in your present situation.

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. Can you think of a time when you were so unhappy with your circumstances that you did something you probably should not have done? What happened?

2. In 1 Corinthians 7:1-9 Paul touches on some different wrong views of physical intimacy. Which wrong views can you see in these verses?

How might Satan use these wrong views? How might these wrong views contribute to further wrong conduct?

What is God's view on physical intimacy in the areas mentioned above?

Is the simple answer to exercise self-control? Explain.

3. Read 1 Corinthians 7:10-16. God says not to divorce, and yet the divorce rate is high among Christians. How should the church respond?

What can you do to help?

What are Paul's instructions for those in mixed (1 believer and the other not) marriages?

What might be some of the hardest parts of being in a mixed marriage? How can Christian brothers and sisters help that person?

4. In 1 Corinthians 7:17-24 Paul addresses how Christians should view their present situation. What is he urging them to do, and to not do?

What area of your life is most challenging to find contentment in right now?

How can you apply what Paul is teaching in this passage?