

“Principles For Marriage Pt. 2”
1 Corinthians 7:10-16
5/2/21
Message 15

Introduction

- Title of the Message is: “Principles For Marriage Pt. 2”
- **Review - Making our Way through 1 Corinthians**
 - **1st We have been looking at WHAT was WRONG with the Church in Corinth**
 - But REALLY we could be asking
 - What is WRONG with the CHURCH of Today
 - It’s like looking into a mirror of the modern-day church
 - We see MANY of same problems today
 - **2nd Issues**
 - **Chapters - 1-2 DIVISION**
 - Pride - Caused Division Chapters 1-2
 - I am of Paul - Apollos, etc...
 - **Chapter 3 - CARNAILTY**
 - Carnality in the church Chapter 3
 - They were stuck on milk - could not eat meat
 - Permit me to Add a few things here before we continue
 - Carnality in the church of Today
 - School System – Dumbed Down Education

- Think we would all agree that there has been a dumbing down in our education system over the last 50 years
- Reason = Control
- Church has Dumbed Down
 - Well sadly there has been a dumbing down in the church
 - Church of the last 30 or so years has been more about
 - Feeling
 - Entertainment
 - A What's in for me attitude
 - Sadly pastor have accommodated that attitude with shorter simple feel good messages
 - **Show PIC**
 - Results
 - Our world is in a bigger mess
 - A Set up for the False Prophet
 - One World Gov and Religious system
 - **IT IS SO IMPORTANT that we are in the WORD – Study verse by verse – in depth – not just feel good messages**
- **Chapter 4 - RIGHT – EXAMPLE**
 - What a TRUE church and PASTOR should look like
- **Chapter 5 - IMMORALITY IN THE CHURCH**

- Moves to the Subject of Sexual Sin -
- Unrepentant Sin
- Church Discipline
- **Chapter 6 – “DO YOU NOT KNOW”**
 - Suing Each Other
 - 1st As A Challenge -
 - 2nd As An Encouragement
 - Remember Your position in Christ
 - AKA = "Remember WHAT / WHO You Are"
 - AKA = "Remember To Whom You Belong."
- **Chapter 7**
 - Paul Switches Gears
 - Up to this point...
 - Paul had been dealing with the **SINS REPORTED** to be known in the Corinthian Congregation
 - He now begins to **Answer Questions** that they had written to him
 - Celibacy - Marriage (1 Cor. 7:1, 25)
 - Food offered to idols (1 Cor. 8:1)
 - Spiritual Gifts (1 Cor. 12:1)
 - The Resurrection of the Dead (1 Cor. 15:1)
 - The Missionary Offering for the Jews (1 Cor. 16:1)
 - The **FIRST** Question he addresses

- Celibacy – Marriage
 - The Corinthians thought that it was more spiritual (holy) to stay celibate
 - Married couples were defrauding each other from Sex
 - Paul Tells them to STOP doing that
 - In his answer, he will ALSO Give several Principles that Apply to Marriage
 - Give AFFECTION due each other
 - Talked about how we as men need to step it up

- **This Morning Principles For Marriage – Part 2**

- **So now in verses 10-16**
 - Paul continues to address some issues with married couples
 - Now Paul Deal with the big “D” word (Divorce)
- **A Problem in Corinth**
 - This was a big issue in this culture – was not uncommon that a person could be married 20 times
- **A Problem Today**
 - Sadly this is still a big ISSUE in our culture today
 - People Mindset
 - If doesn't work out just get a divorce
 - My “NEEDS aren't being met find someone else
 - Divorce Rate

- It reported that 50% of marriages in in divorce
- Even with Christians the divorce rate is anywhere from 35%-50% depending on them study you use
 - I Believe it closer to 35%
- In The Church today there is also a mindset – to just let it go
 - Incompatible
 - Irreconcilable differences
 - Let ME STATE UP Front we are Incompatible and have Irreconcilable differences
- **We Don't have Marriage Problems we have LORDSHIP Problems**
- **GRACE for those who have been divorced**
 - LISTEN – maybe you sit here today and you have been divorced
 - You both started out with the right value system
 - But Somehow you ended up divorced
 - Maybe it was ALL your fault
 - Maybe it was all your spouses' fault
 - Maybe it was a combination (YES)
 - BUT here is the point – this is where you are At – and God wants to HEAL
 - Confess - Receive His GRACE
 - ASK – How do you want me to move forward with YOU Lord
- **This Morning 4 Powerful Truth we can Apply to our lives in regards to Marriage**

- The Command Towards Married Believers vs. 10-11
- The Concern Towards Mixed Marriage vs. 12-14
- The Condition For Divorce v. 15
- Stay Committed v. 16

The Command Towards Married Believers vs. 10-11

• First: Remain Committed To Your Marriage v. 10

- 1st “Now to the Married v. 10a

1 Corinthians 7:10 (NKJV)

10 Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from her husband.

- **1st Now to the married – Transition**
 - He has dealt with the issue of Celibacy and Marriage
 - Now to the...
 - Indicates he is moving to another question
 - These questions and answers have to do with marriage and divorce.
- **2nd To the Married – Who are we talking about?**
 - Paul addresses marriages where both partners are Christians.
 - He will deal with other situations in following verses.

- 2nd I command, yet not I but the Lord v. 10b

1 Corinthians 7:10 (NKJV)

10 Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from her husband.

- **1st The Divine Command**

- “I command, yet not I, but the Lord”
- Paul Is Reminding them What Jesus Said
- Turn To Matthew

Matthew 5:31–32 (NKJV)

31 *“Furthermore it has been said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’*

32 *But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.*

Matthew 19:4–9 (NKJV)

4 *And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female,’*

5 *and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’?*

6 *So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”*

7 *They said to Him, “Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?”*

8 *He said to them, “Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.*

9 *And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.”*

- Jesus lays out God Plan for marriage
- **3rd A wife is not to depart from her husband v. 10c**

1 Corinthians 7:10 (NKJV)

10 *Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord: **A wife is not to depart from her husband.***

▪ **A wife is not to depart from her husband:**

- The Corinthian Christians wondered if it might be more spiritual to be single, and if they should break up existing marriages for the cause of greater holiness.

- Paul answers their question straight from the heart of the Lord: absolutely not!
- **4th Lessons –**
 - **1st God’s Plan Marriage**
 - Simple One Man One Women to death due them part
 - NO DIVORCE
 - Divorce was only permitted because of the “Hardness of Heart”
 - Real Quick only 2 justified reasons for divorce
 - Adultery
 - The Covenant was broken
 - Departure
 - We will talk about this more in a minute
 - **2nd Stay Committed to God’s PLAN**
 - Marriage problem boil down is a LORDSHIP Problem
 - If you are having problem in your marriage one or both is having a LORDSHIP problem not a marriage problem
 - In MANY ways - God Designed Marriage to BE HARD!!!
 - WHAT?!
 - Yes –
 - 2 Sinners living under the same roof – what could go wrong?! Haha
 - WHY?!

- Marriage is a relationship that you will need to DIE to yourself if you want to see success
- Lessons – So Remember
 - Marriage is not so much about finding the right person
 - It's MORE ABOUT BEING the right person.
 - It means choosing to be loving and caring when you don't feel like it.
 - It means choosing to stick it out when you don't feel like it and
 - It means choosing to treat each other with affection and kindness that Jesus embraces us with.
 - Marriage is not about being cherished by the one you love
 - It's about cherishing the one you love.
 - When you think about cherishing something you think about taking care of it, treating it with dignity and respect.
 - It's not giving 50/50. It's about giving 100% without expecting anything in return.
 - It means treating each other with the love, dignity and respect that Jesus embraces us with.
 - Marriage is not about being right
 - It is about giving up your rights.
 - In the quest to be right you can mess up a lot of wonderful dinners and ruin a lot of lovely weekends.

- You will no longer be seen as two individuals, but as one flesh in the sight of God.
- That process of becoming one is difficult and challenging and the most important words you can say to each other will be - I was wrong, please forgive me.
- Remember the Statement of Intent
- Husband
 - Do you take WIFE NAME to be your lawfully wedded wife according to God's ordinance in the holy state of matrimony?
 - Do you promise from this day forward to provide for her spiritual leadership?
 - Do you promise to perform unto her all the obligations and responsibilities of a Christian husband?
 - Do you promise to love her & comfort her, nourish her & cherish her; and forsaking all others, remain faithful to her so long as you both shall live?
- Wife
 - Do you take Husband's Name to be your lawfully wedded husband according to God's ordinance in the holy state of matrimony?
 - Do you promise from this day forward to follow him as your spiritual leader?
 - Do you promise to perform unto him all the obligations and responsibilities of a Christian wife?

- Do you promise to love him & comfort him, respect & honor him; and forsaking all others, remain faithful to him so long as you both shall live?
 - VOWs - To have and to hold / from this day forward / for better or for worse / for richer or for poorer / in sickness and in health / to love and to cherish / till death due us part.
- **3rd SO What do you do if you find yourself in a difficult marriage?**
 - A couple basically is facing 3 options
 - To just live with it
 - To remove themselves from the problem, divorce
 - Or, to work hard to repair their marriage
 - Just Live with it!!
 - A lot of people will choose this option
 - Easier to just live in then make the necessary changes
 - Divorce
 - If the couple believes its impossible to repair and its too unbearable to stick it out, then divorce is too often chosen
 - But there is one problem for the Christian
 - One of the “options” promoted in the world, is really not an option
 - Divorce should not be a part of the “equation”
 - Work On IT

- The Lord calls us to work it out!
 - Remember
 - It's not an issue of "I married the wrong person!"
 - Once you get married, that person becomes the right person
 - We are ALL incompatible
 - We have irreconcilable differences
- So Confront YOURSELF in the Mirror of HIS GRACE
 - Let Him fix YOU
 - Stop Trying to fix YOUR spouse
 - Remember – it's a LORDSHIP problem
- Ephesians 5

• **Second: Reasons Why People Still Depart v. 11a**

- **1st "But even if she does depart"**

1 Corinthians 7:11 (NKJV)

11 But even if she does depart, let her remain unmarried or be reconciled to her husband. And a husband is not to divorce his wife.

- **1st Good Reasons To Separate – NOT DIVORCE**
 - Abuse
 - Drugs
- **2nd If the Marriage does End**
 - For REASONS other than Adultery

- Then they are to remain unmarried
- Jesus said the one who divorces for invalid reasons, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery (Matthew 19:9).
- When Jesus' disciples understood how binding the marriage covenant was, and how it could not be broken (in the sight of God) for just any reason, they responded If such is the case of the man with his wife, it is better not to marry (Matthew 19:10).
- They understood Jesus perfectly, and so should more people today, before they enter into the covenant of marriage
- You can't just decide I don't want to be married anymore and leave your spouse and find another one...
- **3rd Reconciling the marriage**
 - There may be a time of separation
 - But the goal should always be to RECONCILE
- **2nd Reasons I have Seen For People wanting to Divorce**
 - **1st Lack of care**

Ephesians 5:25–29 (NKJV)

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,

26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

- **2nd Lack of kindness**

Colossians 3:19 (NKJV)

19 Husbands, love your wives and do not be bitter toward them.

- **3rd Lack of obedience to God**

1 Peter 3:1 (NKJV)

1 Wives, likewise, be submissive to your own husbands, that even if some do not obey the word, they, without a word, may be won by the conduct of their wives,

- **4th Lack of understanding**

1 Peter 3:7 (NKJV)

7 Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

The Concern Towards Mixed Marriage vs. 12-14

First: Regarding mixed marriages, let's be clear

- Don't marry an unbeliever (2 Cor. 6) Unequally yoked

Second: His Instruction Is Clear vs. 12-13

1 Corinthians 7:12–13 (NKJV)

12 But to the rest I, not the Lord, say: If any brother has a wife who does not believe, and she is willing to live with him, let him not divorce her.

13 And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him.

- **1st But to the rest I, not the Lord,**
 - He Adding to what Jesus has already Taught
 - YES this is God's Command – Paul is Simply Adding to what Jesus Himself taught
- **1st Command = SIMPLE**
 - The believer should not divorce the non-believer who wants to stay with the marriage

- In this Culture People were getting saved and the spouse wasn't
- So they asked if it was better to leave the Non- Believer and Marry a believer
- PAUL SAYS NO
- Stay where you are – he will give reasons for that

• **Second: The Impact Is Of The Believer In The Marriage v. 14**

1 Corinthians 7:14 (NKJV)

14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband; otherwise your children would be unclean, but now they are holy.

○ **1st For the unbelieving Spouse is Sanctified by the Believing Spouse**

- Why should a Christian try to keep their marriage to a non-Christian together?
- Because there is a sanctifying effect in the HOME
 - Sanctified, in this context
 - Does not mean that the unbelieving spouse is saved just by being married to a Christian.
 - It simply means that they are set apart for a special working in their lives by the Holy Spirit, by virtue of being so close to someone who is a Christian.
 - God can be glorified in such a marriage
 - He may do a work through the believing spouse to draw the unbelieving spouse to Jesus Christ.
 - One Christian in a home graces the entire home

○ **2nd On the children**

- The Same as Above = A Godly Person in the Home can make ALL the difference in the World

The Conditions For Divorce v. 15

1 Corinthians 7:15 (NKJV)

15 *But if the unbeliever departs, let him depart; a brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases. But God has called us to peace.*

• First: The Decision To Divorce Is Made By The Unbeliever

- **1st Now it says here that it should not be resisted by the believer**
 - Paul has counseled that the Christian partner should do what they can to keep the marriage together.
 - But if the unbelieving spouse refuses to be married, then the marriage can be broken; but this isn't to be initiated or sought by the believer.

• Second: The Divorce Does Not Put The Believer "Under Bondage"

- In God's sight the bond between a husband and wife is dissolved only by death (Rom. 7:2), adultery (Matt. 19:9), and an unbeliever's leaving
- When the bond, is broken in any of those ways, a Christian is free to remarry

• Third: The Desire Of God Is For Peace

- If the unbelieving husband or wife cannot tolerate the spouse's faith and desires to be free from the union
- It is better that the marriage be dissolved in order to preserve the peace of His child
- Fighting, turmoil, bickering, criticism, and frustration disrupt the harmony and peace that God wants His children to have
- Issue I Have Seen

- This can be a problem – there will always be a world pull that you are dealing with from the non-believing spouse
- They May Not Want you to go to church
- They May not want you to take the kids to church
- Different Value Systems
 - TV
 - Education
 - Social issues
- Paul is SAYING if they want to go let them – and many of these issue will go away
- If you Find yourself in this place REMEMBER
 - Keep Jesus First
 - Don't PUSH them away
 - Love them as JESUS Loves them
 - This is YOUR MINISTRY

Stay Committed v. 16

1 Corinthians 7:16 (NKJV)

16 *For how do you know, O wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, O husband, whether you will save your wife?*

• First: The salvation of the unbelieving spouse

- It is far more important than compatibility and happiness in the marriage!

Closing

- These verse are enormously practical

- They give a sort of line-by-line understanding of marriage, divorce, and remarriage

Communion

- Paul gives us 4 guidelines to follow as it relates to participating in communion

- **First: Remember (Looking Back at what Jesus did)**

- V. 24 *This do in remembrance of Me*
- But Christ specifically mentions - Remember MY DEATH
- Because everything that we have and are as Christians is centered in His death .
- WHAT ARE WE TO REMEMBER
 - **1st we must remember what He did**
 - Body bruised and beaten
 - Blood Shed
 - Intense Pain
 - Misery
 - He Left Heaven / NEVER forget WHO He is!!!
 - **2nd We need to remember why He died**
 - WHY because He loved us
 - He was our substitute
 - He paid the Price that was owed to us / paid the penalty
 - Blood shed - remission of sins
 - Blood access into - God's presence - / Blood made clean & New

- **Second: Repent / Reflect (Looking Within) 1 Cor. 11:27-28**

1 Corinthians 11:27–28 (NKJV)

27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

1 Corinthians 11:31–32 (NKJV)

31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

○ **Examine yourself / have you fallen?**

- We need to examine ourselves to make sure our hearts are right - that we are partaking in a worthy manner
- Unconfessed Sin
- Compromise
- Bitterness
- Every time WE come to the Lord's Supper, We should examine ourselves

Psalm 139:23–24 (NKJV)

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties;

24 And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

○ **Come to Jesus! This can be your 1st communion**

- How ABC

● **Third: Rejoice (Looking Forward) 1 Cor. 11:26**

1 Corinthians 11:26 (NKJV)

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

- In Reverence
- In His Compassion
- In His Victory

- In His 2nd Coming

- **Fourth: Reconcile (Looking Around) 1 Cor. 11:29, 33-34**

1 Corinthians 11:33–34 (NKJV)

33 *Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.*

34 *But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.*

- Paul closes this chapter By exhorting the Church to get their act together
- BE ONE
- UNITY
 - What is Unity
 - Unity is BASED on Theology / Biblical Truth NOT Feelings and Emotions
 - We can NOT be united with those outside the FAITH
 - Can't Be united with a Mormon / they don't believe Jesus is God
 - Can't Be United with those who are False Teachers
 - NOW We must LOVE but there can't be UNITY
 - MUST have Unity in the Faith
 - We MUST have unity with those WHO stand God's Truths
 - This is NOT something we can say well one day... or only if they... NO we must be UNITED
 - **Sadly OVER the YEARS**
 - Seen Over the Years I have SEEN SO MUCH DISUNITY

- I have seen many good churches split for NO good reason
- Nothing was wrong except for PRIDE got in the way
 - Disagreements in Philosophies only
- Illustrations from Auburn
 - Watched churches fall apart
 - They would come to us
 - We were the
 - Flavor of the week...
 - Church of the month
- Gossip WAS ALWAYS at the CORE
 - Gossip about each other
 - Gossip about the pastor
- *We Must Engage in Community*
 - Illustration
 - Moving to CP we Noticed a lack of community / a lot different from Auburn
 - Lot of People move here to get away from...
 - Now that may or may not be okay for a community
 - But it's not okay for the Body of Christ
 - We must engage with each other

- IT IS NOT HEALTHY to ONLY engage once a week with the body of Christ
- So BLESSED to See how our body responded to Wayne and Cindy
- So you can see it is SO CRITICAL THAT WE STAY UNITY

1 Corinthians 11:23–26 (NKJV)

23 *For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread;*

24 *and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me."*

25 *In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."*

26 *For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.*