



## REDEEMED

God's Design for Sex, Marriage, and Singleness

Lesson Three • 1Corinthians 7:8-24

### The Gospel Difference in Marriage

#### Foundational Truth

The GOSPEL is what makes the difference in our lives and marriages.

#### The Gospel Makes the Difference

### 1. The Gospel Makes the Difference in My LIFE!

#### The Difference the Gospel Makes

The Gospel always makes radical changes in our LIVES, but it doesn't always make radical changes in our CIRCUMSTANCES.

#### The Gospel Difference in My Life

- General rule: REMAIN in the same situation you were in when you were saved.

*Let each one remain in the same calling in which he was called. 1Corinthians 7:20*

- God's character: God is SOVEREIGN and faithful in your current situation.

*But as God has distributed to each one, as the Lord as called each one, so let him walk. And so I ordain in all the churches. 1Corinthians 7:17*

*Brethren, let each one remain with God in that calling in which he was called. 1Corinthians 7:24*

- Gospel focus: Remember GRACE, pursue HOLINESS, and reject ENTITLEMENT.

*Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but keeping the commandments of God is what matters. 1Corinthians 7:19*

*For he who is called in the Lord while a slave is the Lord's freedman. Likewise he who is called while free is Christ's slave. You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men. 1Corinthians 7:22-23*

### 2. The Gospel Makes the Difference in My MARRIAGE!

#### The Gospel Difference in My Marital Status

- Christians formerly married: Remain UNMARRIED purposefully.

*But I say to the unmarried and to the widows: It is good for them if they remain even as I am; but if they cannot exercise self-control, let them marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion. 1Corinthians 7:8-9*

#### If You're a Christian Formerly Married

Know that your singleness is God's will as long as you can exercise SELF-CONTROL.

- Christians married to Christians: Remain MARRIED permanently.

*Now to the married I command, yet not I but the Lord: A wife is not to depart from her husband. 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. 1Corinthians 7:10-11*

*A wife is bound by law as long as her husband lives; but if her husband dies, she is at liberty to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord. 1Corinthians 7:39*

#### If You're a Christian Married to a Christian

Know that your marriage is God's will as long as your spouse is ALIVE.

- Christians married to unbelievers: Remain MARRIED indefinitely.

*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. And a woman who has a husband who does not believe, if he is willing to live with her, let her not divorce him. 1Corinthians 7:12-13*

*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. 1Corinthians 7:14*

*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. 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? 1Corinthians 7:15-16*

#### If You're a Christian Married to an Unbeliever

Know that your marriage is God's will as long as your spouse is willing to STAY in the marriage.

#### The Gospel and You

- If you are single, maximize your singleness to advance the Gospel.
- If you are married, love your spouse in a way that portrays the Gospel.
- If you are married considering divorce, remember the power of the Gospel.