

God's Beautiful Messy Church
Week's Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:1-11
Discussion Guide: May 15, 2022

CHECK UP:

Memory Work Review: Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children.

- Deuteronomy 6:5-7a

- What stuck with you most from last week's "it takes a village" message?

OPEN:

- 1 Corinthians 7 can be a loaded and even challenging chapter of scripture.
 - o What stood out to you in this past week's reading?
 - o Is there anything in the reading that brought out a sore subject for you?

READ and ASK: 1 Corinthians 7:1-11, Matthew 19:1-12

- While there are many things that have been misunderstood, and even other things that have multiple sound interpretations, what are some clear and certain truths found in 1 Corinthians 7:1-11?
- From this passage, what are some of the reasons in favor of marriage?
 - o What are other reasons for marriage not listed in this text? (like in places as Matthew 19 and Ephesians 5)
- How can being married both hinder and contribute to the Christian life?
- What does Paul say about singleness in this text?
 - o What does he call your current marital status? (7:7)
 - What do you think about that?
- There are four common biblical interpretations of divorce and remarriage:
 - o Neither divorce or remarriage are ever permitted.
 - o Divorce is at times permitted but never remarriage.
 - o Permission to divorce and remarry in the cases of sexual immorality or desertion.
 - o Permission to divorce and remarry for a wider ranger of reasons (including things like abuses, toxic relationships, etc...)
 - Keeping in mind, in essentials unity, in non-essential liberty, and in all things love, which view do you currently hold and why?

- Scripture clearly teaches us that divorce is not intended to be a part of God's creation. What negative ramifications have you seen as a result of divorce?

APPLY:

- Divorce is a very common thing in our culture, how can we healthily walk with those who have gone through a divorce, or are currently considering one?
- NEXT STEP: What's most important about any of these discussions is that we have a desire to view and do things God's way; in what area are you currently working to view and do things God's way?

Memory Work:

I wish that all of you were as I am. But each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. 1 Corinthians 7:7

Next Week's Reading:

1 Corinthians 7:12-16