**LIVE IN UNDIVIDED DEVOTION TO THE LORD**

1 Corinthians 7:1-40

Key Verses 7:35

*“I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.”*

1. Read verses 1-7. What was Paul’s response to the matter they had written him about (1)? Based on 6:18-20, what does verse 1 mean? (The KJV and RSV translate “not to marry” as “do not touch.”) What were Paul’s practical instructions on how to flee sexual immorality (2-5)? What was Paul’s view of celibacy? (6-7; cf. Mt 19:11-12)
2. Read verses 8-16. What advice did Paul give to the unmarried (8-9)? To the married (10-11)? Why did he say, “…not I, but the Lord”? (10; cf. Mt 19:3-9) How does Paul instruct those who have an unbelieving spouse (12-16)? Though it is not easy, why should these instructions be kept?
3. Read verses 17-24. What rule did Paul give to all the churches (17)? What situations did Paul have in mind (18-21)? What does it mean that each person should remain in the situation they were in when God called them? Through Christ, what new relationship do we have with God (22-24)? What really counts (19b)?

1. Read verses 25-31. What advice did Paul give to virgins, and what motivated this (25-28)? What attitude toward human affairs was Paul teaching (29-31)? On what basis did he give this advice? How can we live like this? ( Ro 13:11-14; 2Pe 3:10-13)
2. Read verses 32-40. What can divide a Christian’s interests (32-34)? What should be our primary concern? What advice does Paul give to engaged people (36-38)? To widows (39-40)? What does Paul want for us, whether married or unmarried (35)?