

MAY 1, 2022
LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
PASTOR PAUL ON LOVE, SEX AND MARRIAGE
1 CORINTHIANS 7:1-5
SPRING QUARTER WEEK 1 OF 7

Getting to Know Each Other Better

1. What is your dream vacation? Why?

Oh, this is easy! It would be a trip to the UK in the winter to attend a handful of English Premier League matches in England, followed by a trip to Scotland and Ireland. I've visited Ireland and London and definitely want to go back.

How about you?

Renewed by Grace/Equipped as Disciples

Read John 11:17-37

2. Does it seem to you that the prevailing opinion today among people who want to be "spiritual" is that sex should be avoided? ([Why Sex is Bad](#)) Or was this issue only something the first century Corinthians dealt with? Do you think this opinion affects modern day Christians? Why?

The article I refer you to is certainly not mainstream, but it is something that people believe. If you take the time to read it, you will find that it is completely opposite to what God desires for us. If all the things this guy says are true, and since God has told us that He has given us sex as a gift and directed us to enjoy ourselves within the friendly confines of the marriage bed, then God has certainly deceived us. Having to choose between God and this guy, I choose God.

I'm guessing the answer to this question probably depends on who you know and talk to. It seems to me that the progressive, promiscuous sexual norms of the day are winning out over a mindset of abstinence and avoidance. I don't know any married Christians who are staying away from sex in order to be more spiritual. I do know, from stories and stats, that a lot of unmarried Christians are just as active as unmarried non-Christians. It does seem that what is going on today with our culture more closely matches what was going on in Corinth in that more were sexually active outside of marriage than were sexually inactive inside of it.

Maybe the pendulum has swung from one extreme to the other and maybe it's about to start swinging back the other way? If it does, we have 1 Corinthians 7:1-5 to turn to.

- 3. How does Paul's teaching compare to and contrast with the prevailing sexual ethic in our country?**
- 4. What principles for marriage, and for all relationships for that matter, do you find embedded in these verses? What are your thoughts about the principles you identified?**

I see -

- Fidelity
- Commitment
- Duty
- Sacrifice
- Generosity

- Unselfishness
- Submission
- Making decisions by consensus
- Protecting the other
- Protecting the relationship

I asked, "**What are your thoughts about the principles you identified?**" because I didn't think it made a whole lot of sense to ask for the principles and not have a discussion about them. Maybe you can ask,

- "Obviously you value all of these, but are there some that seem to be especially important for you in a friendship or relationship? Why?"
- "Is there one or more of these that you would like to work on over the next week? Which ones and why?"

5. What are some of the more encouraging points of the message for you? What are some of the more challenging points of the message for you?

Sent in Love

6. What is one way you will apply the text this week?