

CHAPTER 32.4
My People
in this ***City***

“MARRIAGE”
1 Corinthians 7
February 4, 2018

God’s plan is permanence.
Marriage is for life.
Christians are not to divorce.

- I. Primacy of serving Christ. (40, 35b)
- II. Principles of Christian Marriage (2-5, 10-11, 33-34)
 - A. Deep concern to please the other. (33-34)
 - B. The importance of intimacy. (2-5)
 1. Refusing intimacy is a violation of God’s command.
 2. Separation from one another should only be for a limited time, when both husband and wife agree to focus on prayer.
 - C. Stay together. (10-11)
 1. Do not separate/divorce.
 2. If this happens:
 - Remain unmarried as long as the spouse is alive.
 - Or be reconciled.
- III. Marriage between a believer and an unbeliever. (12-16)
 - A. How does this happen?
Believers should only marry believers. (39b)
One spouse becomes a believer after marriage. (12)
 - B. Do not sever the marriage. (12-13)
 - C. Gospel influence on spouse and children (14)
 - D. If the unbeliever separates,
the believer is not responsible. (15-16)
- IV. Live for God where you are. (17-38)
Honor God where you are.
God’s grace is sufficient.
His forgiveness is comprehensive.
But His standards do not change to accommodate us.

How does this apply to me?

NEXT WEEK

“LOVE BEFORE”
1 Corinthians 8-10

Passage Overview:

Personal rights and freedom in Christ must be lived under the primacy of love. The Corinthians were arrogant concerning their knowledge about God and life. But their intellectual pride was wreaking havoc within the church. Divisions proliferated as they defended their rights to do certain things because of their insight and Christian freedom.

The Spirit of God addresses their actions towards one another by showing them that knowledge, freedom and rights are all subservient to love. Love builds. Knowledge puffs up. Individual rights and freedom cause harm to others if their expression is not controlled by love.

Love determines how we treat others because it is grounded in our love for God. When we love Him above all, our desire is for the good of others. The best for others is always found in their acceptance of the gospel so that they can understand the love of God and then respond to Him with reciprocal love. Our actions then, will always be controlled by our concern never to set a stumbling block before another, which causes them to fall instead of to stand. Our freedom is limited by our desire for God’s glory, which is celebrated and experienced as people come to faith in Him and grow in love with Him.

Reading for Next Week: 1 Corinthians 8 - 10