

1 Corinthians 7

Chapter 7 of 16 · 40 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Principles for Marriage

- ¹ Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.
- ² Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.
- ³ Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.
- ⁴ The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.
- ⁵ Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.
- ⁶ But I speak this by permission, and not of commandment.
- ⁷ For I would that all men were even as I myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that.
- ⁸ I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I.
- ⁹ But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.
- ¹⁰ And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord, Let not the wife depart from her husband:

11 But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife.

12 But to the rest speak I, not the Lord: If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.

13 And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him.

14 For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy.

15 But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace.

16 For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?

Living in the Calling of God

17 But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. And so ordain I in all churches.

18 Is any man called being circumcised? let him not become uncircumcised. Is any called in uncircumcision? let him not be circumcised.

19 Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God.

20 Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called.

21 Art thou called being a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather.

22 For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant.

23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

24 Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God.

The Unmarried and Widowed

25 Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful.

26 I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be.

27 Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife.

28 But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you.

29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none;

30 And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not;

31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.

32 But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord:

33 But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife.

34 There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.

35 And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.

36 But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry.

37 Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well.

38 So then he that giveth her in marriage doeth well; but he that giveth her not in marriage doeth better.

39 The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord.

40 But she is happier if she so abide, after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Faith — πίστις (Pistis)

Faith, belief, trust

The Greek **pistis** (πίστις) denotes faith, belief, or trust—confidence in God's character and promises. It's both intellectual assent and relational trust, central to justification (Romans 5:1).

Forgive — ἀφίημι (Aphiemi)

To send away, forgive, release

The Greek **aphiemi** (ἀφίημι) means to send away or release—canceling a debt or dismissing an offense. Jesus taught us to pray 'forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors' (Matthew 6:12).

God — Θεός (Theos)

God

The Greek **Theos** (Θεός) refers to deity, used both for the one true God and false gods. Context determines whether it denotes the Father specifically or the Godhead generally.

Holy — ἅγιος (Hagios)

Holy, sacred, set apart

The Greek **hagios** (ἅγιος) denotes holiness—moral purity and separation unto God. Believers are called 'saints' (hagioi), those set apart for God through Christ's sanctifying work.

Law — νόμος (Nomos)

Law

The Greek **nomos** (νόμος) denotes law—particularly the Mosaic law. While believers are not under law but under grace (Romans 6:14), Christ fulfilled the law (Matthew 5:17) and wrote it on believers' hearts (Hebrews 8:10).

Lord — Κύριος (Kurios)

Lord, Master

The Greek **Kurios** (Κύριος) means 'lord' or 'master,' used both for human masters and divinely for God the Father and Jesus Christ. Its application to Jesus affirms His deity, as it translates YHWH in the Septuagint.

Reconcile — καταλλάσσω (Katallasso)

To reconcile, restore relationship

The Greek **katallasso** (καταλλάσσω) means to reconcile—restoring a broken relationship. 'God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them' (2 Corinthians 5:19).

Save — σώζω (Sozo)

To save, deliver, heal

The Greek **sozo** (σώζω) means to save—deliverance from sin, death, and judgment. 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved' (Acts 16:31). The word also encompasses physical healing and spiritual wholeness.

Spirit — πνεῦμα (Pneuma)

Spirit, wind, breath

The Greek **pneuma** (πνεῦμα) means spirit, wind, or breath—the immaterial aspect of persons. The Holy Spirit (Pneuma Hagion) is the third person of the Trinity, dwelling in believers.

CROSS REFERENCES

1 Corinthians 7:1 **Good:** 1 Corinthians 7:8. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 20:6

1 Corinthians 7:2 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 6:18; 7:9; Proverbs 18:22; 19:14; Malachi 2:14; Ephesians 5:28; 5:33; 1 Timothy 4:3

1 Corinthians 7:3 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 21:10; 1 Peter 3:7

1 Corinthians 7:4 **Parallel theme:** Hosea 3:3; Matthew 19:9

1 Corinthians 7:5 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 19:15; Joel 2:16

1 Corinthians 7:6 **Word:** 1 Corinthians 7:25; 2 Corinthians 8:8. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:12

1 Corinthians 7:7 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:8; 9:5; 12:4; 12:11; Romans 12:6

1 Corinthians 7:8 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:7; 7:32

1 Corinthians 7:9 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:2; 7:28; 1 Timothy 5:11; 5:14

1 Corinthians 7:10 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:6; 7:15; Matthew 5:32; Luke 16:18.

References Lord: 1 Corinthians 7:12; 7:25; Jeremiah 3:20

1 Corinthians 7:11 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:10; Jeremiah 3:1

1 Corinthians 7:12 **References Lord:** 2 Corinthians 11:17. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:6. **Faith:** 1 Corinthians 7:25

1 Corinthians 7:14 **Faith:** Titus 1:15. **Holy:** Isaiah 52:1; Romans 11:16; 1 Timothy 4:5

1 Corinthians 7:15 **Peace:** 1 Corinthians 14:33; Romans 12:18; 14:19; 2 Corinthians 13:11. **Parallel theme:** Matthew 12:50

1 Corinthians 7:16 **Salvation:** 1 Corinthians 9:22; Romans 11:14

1 Corinthians 7:17 **References Lord:** 1 Corinthians 4:17. **References God:** 1 Corinthians 7:7; 7:24; 14:33. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:18; Matthew 19:12; 2 Corinthians 8:18; 11:28

1 Corinthians 7:18 **Parallel theme:** Acts 15:5; 15:19; 15:24; 15:28; Colossians 3:11

1 Corinthians 7:19

Parallel theme: Galatians 5:6; 6:15; Colossians 3:11. **Word:** Revelation 22:14

1 Corinthians 7:20

Parallel theme: 1 Corinthians 7:17; Proverbs 27:8; 1 Thessalonians 4:11; 2 Thessalonians 3:12

1 Corinthians 7:21 **Parallel theme:** Luke 12:29; Colossians 3:11. **Creation:** 1 Corinthians 12:13

1 Corinthians 7:22

Parallel theme: Galatians 5:13; 1 Peter 2:16. **References Lord:** Psalms 116:16; Philemon 1:16. **References Christ:** Galatians 5:1

1 Corinthians 7:23 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 6:20; Leviticus 25:42; Acts 20:28; Galatians 2:4; Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 3:18; Revelation 5:9

1 Corinthians 7:24 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:20. **References God:** 1 Corinthians 7:17

1 Corinthians 7:25 **Word:** 1 Corinthians 7:6. **Faith:** 1 Corinthians 4:2; 7:12. **Judgment:** 1 Corinthians 7:40

1 Corinthians 7:26 **Good:** 1 Corinthians 7:1; 7:8. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:28; 1 Peter 4:17

1 Corinthians 7:27 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:20

1 Corinthians 7:28 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:26; 2 Corinthians 1:23; Hebrews 13:4

1 Corinthians 7:29 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:31; 1 Peter 1:24; 4:7; 1 John 2:17

1 Corinthians 7:30 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 30:5; Ecclesiastes 3:4; Luke 6:21; 6:25; John 16:22

1 Corinthians 7:31 **Parallel theme:** Luke 21:34; James 4:14; 1 Peter 1:24; 4:7; 1 John 2:17

1 Corinthians 7:32 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 13:22; Philippians 4:6; 1 Timothy 5:5.
References Lord: Psalms 55:22

1 Corinthians 7:33 **Parallel theme:** Colossians 3:19; 1 Peter 3:7

1 Corinthians 7:34 **Spirit:** 1 Corinthians 6:20

1 Corinthians 7:35 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:2; 7:28; 7:36; Matthew 19:12; Luke 8:14; 21:34; Ephesians 5:3; Philippians 4:8; Titus 2:3

1 Corinthians 7:36 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:9; 7:37

1 Corinthians 7:38 **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:8; 7:37; Hebrews 13:4

1 Corinthians 7:39
References Lord: 1 Corinthians 7:10; Malachi 2:11. **Parallel theme:** 1 Corinthians 7:15