

Marriage

1 Corinthians 7

by Don Falkos

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The Problem:

Members of the Corinthian assembly were promoting sexual abstinence, even in marriage.

Paul's Response:

Some of you seem to think living in Christ means you must give up all sexual activity. If God has called you to that life, I'm all in favor. That's the best way to go. But most of you will find that life impossible to live. In which case you should marry and satisfy your desires with your spouse. If you remain single, you'll just your way into sin.

For the same reasons a husband and wife should not withhold themselves from each other except perhaps for a short time for prayer and only by mutual agreement. Then they must come back together and engage in that sacred interaction which makes the two of them one being. A husband and wife are a team, an equal partnership in the Lord. Neither must ever act independently of the other; they must always act together.

If you're married, remain married, even if your spouse is an unbeliever. Then your spouse may be blessed by God because of your presence in the relationship.

If you're unmarried, remain unmarried, unless you simply cannot control your passions. Then you should marry. It's not a sin.

What it comes down to is this: We are living in difficult times, and the Lord is coming back soon. Time is short. It's best for you to remain as you are. If you're married, stay married. But if you're single, stay single. Then you can devote all your energies to doing the Lord's work and not be distracted by the troubles that would come with marriage.