

Text: 1 Corinthians 7:25-40
Topic: Decision Making. Wisdom.
Study: First Corinthians
Week: 37
Series: 1 of 1

Focal Point Radio Ministries
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Message # 03-24
Pastor Mike



It's a Big Decision

Before You Make Your Next Commitment

1. Consider _____ (vv.25-31)

Question →

2. Recall _____ (vv.32-35)

Question →

3. Weigh _____ (vv.36-40)

Question →

1 Cor. 7:25-40

²⁵ Now about virgins: I have no command from the Lord, but I give a judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. ²⁶ Because of the present crisis, I think that it is good for you to remain as you are. ²⁷ Are you married? Do not seek a divorce. Are you unmarried? Do not look for a wife. ²⁸ But if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. But those who marry will face many troubles in this life, and I want to spare you this. ²⁹ What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; ³⁰ those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; ³¹ those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away. ³² I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs—how he can please the Lord. ³³ But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife— ³⁴ and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband. 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. ³⁶ If anyone thinks he is acting improperly toward the virgin he is engaged to, and if she is getting along in years and he feels he ought to marry, he should do as he wants. He is not sinning. They should get married. ³⁷ But the man who has settled the matter in his own mind, who is under no compulsion but has control over his own will, and who has made up his mind not to marry the virgin—this man also does the right thing. ³⁸ So then, he who marries the virgin does right, but he who does not marry her does even better. ³⁹ A woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, but he must belong to the Lord. ⁴⁰ In my judgment, she is happier if she stays as she is—and I think that I too have the Spirit of God. (NIV)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.

1. Read Isaiah 30:1-2 and Psalm 81:11-14. Describe a lesson you learned the hard way when you made an important decision without seeking God and wisely weighing all the factors.
2. List a few decisions you anticipate making in the near future.

Choose two of the most pressing decisions you face and apply the three questions discussed in the sermon which were derived from Paul's example in 1 Corinthians 7:25-40.

Answers to Question 1

Answers to Question 2

Answers to Question 3

3. Read Proverbs 15:22 and 20:18. Working through these questions in an effort to make good and godly decisions ought not be a solo effort. With whom will you consult as you make these decisions?
4. Write out a prayer that expresses your desire to have God grant you wisdom in the decisions you face.

We are reading through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule.

Sunday

Eccl. 11-12 & Ps. 137-138

Monday

Song of Sol. 1-2 & Ps. 139-140

Tuesday

Song of Sol. 3-4 & Ps. 141-143

Wednesday

Song of Sol. 5-6 & Ps. 144-145

Thursday

Song of Sol. 7-8 & Ps. 146-147

Friday

Is. 1-2 & Ps. 148-150

Saturday

Is. 3-4 & 1 Cor. 1

Here are some resources which may help you understand and implement the truths presented in this week's sermon.

- Carson, D. A. **A Call to Spiritual Reformation: Priorities from Paul and His Prayers.** Baker Books, 1992.
- Fabarez, Mike. "Slaying the Stigma of Singleness" - **Family Dragons, part 6.** Message #01-29.
- Fagerstrom, Doug. **Single to God: A Hundred Personal Prayers by Single Adults.** Kregel, 2001.
- _____. **Single to Single: Daily Devotionals by and for Single Adults.** Kregel, 1991.
- Mack, Wayne. **Preparing For Marriage.** Hensley Publishing, 1995.
- McNutt, Jim. **A Single Journey: Biblical Sketches for Life on Your Own.** Servant Publications, 1998.
- Rinehart, Stacy & Paula. **Choices: Finding God's Way in Dating, Sex, Singleness and Marriage.** NavPress, 1996.
- Smith, M. Blaine. **Should I Get Married?** InterVarsity Press, 2000.
- Stowell, Joseph. **Eternity: Reclaiming a Passion for What Endures.** Chicago: Moody Press, 1995.
- Swindoll, Charles. **Singleness.** Insight for Living, 1998.
- Tozer, A. W. **The Pursuit of God.** Christian Publications, 1982.
- Wilson, Doug. **Joy at the End of the Tether: The Inscrutable Wisdom of Ecclesiastes.** Canon Press, 1999.