Sermon Notes

Should Singles Marry/Re-marry?

1 Corinthians 7:25-40 by Christian Sanich, 2/23/2020

There may be Q&A at the end as time allows. So note your questions.

7:25-28 It is good for a person to remain in the condition he/she is, but if you marry, you have not sinned. Yet these will have trouble.

(Correction on vs. 8: "unmarried" can probably include anybody presently unmarried, even the divorced.)

If your spouse has divorced you, you should ideally not seek a new spouse, but if you marry, you have not sinned.

If you initiate the divorce, we have to go back to verse 11a.

Singles, break through the fantasy thinking about marriage. Those who marry will have trouble.

7:29-35 Don't be defined by the things of the world. It is good to be free from the concerns of the world, and have pleasing God as our only concern. Getting married divides who we want to please.

The things of this world are passing away. If we think differently about these worldly kinds of things, we will make different decisions.

The unmarried are rightly concerned, occupied, with the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. The married have a divided concern, because they are also rightly concerned with pleasing their spouse.

7:36-38 The never-married, betrothed, can choose to go through with their marriage, or not. Here are some factors:

Sexual desire

Having thoughtfully considered the factors (inc. all Paul has said) There is no feeling of outside pressure forcing singleness.

It's the person's own heart decision.

7:39-40 A widow is free to remarry, only someone else in the Lord. But Paul's viewpoint is, she is blessed if she remains single.

What is your response to this? Discuss it with someone today.

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- ²⁵ Now concerning the never-married I have no command of the Lord, but I give a viewpoint as *one who* since being shown mercy by the Lord is trustworthy.
- ²⁶ Accordingly, I think *that* this *is* good, because having the present condition of pressure, that it is good for a person to remain in the condition he/she is.
- ²⁷ Have you been bound to a wife? You should not seek to be released. Have you been released from a wife? You should not seek a wife.
- ²⁸ But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if the never-married marries, he/she has not sinned. Yet these will have trouble in the flesh, and I am *trying* to spare you.

- ²⁹ But I am saying this, brethren, the time is being wrapped up, so that from now on even those who have wives may be as not having;
- ³⁰ and those who weep, as not weeping; and those who rejoice, as not rejoicing; and those who buy, as not possessing;
- ³¹ and those who use the world, as not making full use; for the present-state of this world is passing away.
- ³² But I want you to be free from concern. The unmarried *man* is concerned *with* the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord;
- ³³ but the *man* who is married is concerned *with* the things of the world, how he may please his wife,
- ³⁴ and he is divided. The unmarried woman, and the never-married, is concerned with the things of the Lord, so that she may be holy both *in* body and spirit. But the *woman* who is married is concerned with the things of the world, how she may please her husband.
- ³⁵ This I say for your own benefit; not in order that I might put a restraint on you, but rather for *what is* admirable and undistracted devotion to the Lord.

- ³⁶ But if any *man* thinks to behave indecently toward his never-married *girl*, if she is past marriageable age, and thus it must be, he should do what he wants, he does not sin; they should marry.
- ³⁷ But he who has been standing steadfastly in his heart, not having pressure, but has authority over his own desire, and has decided this in his own heart, to preserve his own never-married *girl*, he will do excellently.
- ³⁸ So then both the one who marries his own nevermarried *girl* does excellently, and the one who does not marry will do better.

- ³⁹ A wife is bound as long as her husband is alive. But if *her* husband dies, she is free to be married to whom she wants, only in the Lord.
- ⁴⁰ But according to my viewpoint, she is blessed if she remains as she is; and I suppose that I also have the Spirit of God.