

October 25th, 2026

The Myth of "If Only"
1 Corinthians 7:1-24

Nevertheless, each person should live as a believer in whatever situation the Lord has assigned to them, just as God has called them. This is the rule I lay down in all the churches. ¹⁸Was a man already circumcised when he was called? He should not become uncircumcised. Was a man uncircumcised when he was called? He should not be circumcised. ¹⁹Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing. Keeping God's commands is what counts. ²⁰Each person should remain in the situation they were in when God called them.
1Corinthians 7:17-20 (NIV)

The gospel changes how we view _____ of life.

OVERVIEW

- Marriage is designed for mutual self-giving, not selfish entitlement. (vv.1-7)
- Marriage is good. Singleness is also good. (vv.8-9)
- Don't abandon covenant relationship lightly. (vv.10-16)
- Your calling is bigger than your circumstances. (vv.17-24)

IMPLICATIONS

1. Stop waiting for your _____ to become faithful. Matt 6:34; James 4:14
2. Let every relationship become a place where Jesus _____. John 13:15
3. Our identity in Christ must shape _____ identity. 1Cor 7:17

TALK IT OVER

Because we believe that the sharing of our ideas and beliefs enhances our spiritual growth in ways teaching alone cannot - we encourage you to join a small group at Sunridge and discuss some of the following questions.

What's one stage of life you couldn't wait to get to—and once you got there, what surprised you most about it?

Paul's repeated message is, *"Follow Jesus faithfully where you are."* What "if only..." story are you most tempted to believe right now? How does that affect your ability to be content and faithful in your current season?

The sermon described our relationships as "classrooms of discipleship." How has God used a difficult relationship—or a difficult season in a relationship—to shape your character or deepen your faith? Is there a relationship where God may be calling you to love more like Jesus?

We talked about allowing our identity in Christ to shape every other identity. Which identity do you think Christians are most tempted to make ultimate today (political, family, career, nationality, sexuality, success, etc.)? Why is that temptation so strong, and how can we guard against it?

This week, what would it look like to stop waiting for a different season and intentionally follow Jesus where He has you today? Is there one specific act of faithfulness you sense God calling you to take?



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The gospel changes how we view every season of life.

OVERVIEW

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- Marriage is good. Singleness is also good. (vv.8-9)
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- Your calling is bigger than your circumstances. (vv.17-24)

IMPLICATIONS

1. Stop waiting for your next season to become faithful. Matt 6:34; James 4:14
2. Let every relationship become a place where Jesus shapes you. John 13:15
3. Our identity in Christ must shape every other identity. 1Cor 7:17

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