SUNRIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

1 CORINTHIANS
Jed Manimtim, XP of Ministry

November 1st, 2026

The Appointed Time
1 Corinthians 7:25-40

What I mean, brothers and sisters, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they do not; **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. - 1 Cor. 7:29-31 (NIV)

OVERVIEW

- Paul _____ his counsel concerning marriage in light of the present distress (vv. 25-28).
- The passing world _____ the circumstances of ordinary life (vv. 26-31).
- Remaining unmarried offers a practical _____ (vv. 32-35).
- There is _____ in decisions about marriage and remarriage (vv. 36-40).

IMPLICATIONS

- We can learn to see the genuine _____ of singleness (1 Cor. 7:32-35, cf. Matt. 19:10-12).
- Take present responsibilities seriously without treating present circumstances as _____ (1 Cor. 7:29-31, cf. 1 Cor. 15:58; Col. 3:17)
- Pursue _____ where Scripture gives you _____ (1 Cor. 7:25-28, cf. James 1:5; Rom. 14:15-16)

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.

When you first read 1 Corinthians 7:25-40, what caught your attention or raised a question? After working through the passage, what do you think Paul is most concerned about?

Paul recognizes genuine advantages to remaining unmarried while affirming that marriage is good and permissible (vv. 25-28, 32-40). How might his counsel challenge the assumptions we sometimes make about marriage, singleness, and what makes a life meaningful?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 again. What do you think Paul means when he describes living "as though not" in relation to marriage, grief, joy, possessions, and the world? What might it look like to take these circumstances seriously without treating them as ultimate?

Where are you most tempted to look to your circumstances for something they cannot ultimately provide (e.g., regarding completeness, significance, security, or control)? How might the hope of resurrection change the way you understand those circumstances?

Paul distinguishes between commands and his considered judgment, recognizing genuine freedom in certain decisions. Where have you struggled with the pressure to discover the one, "right" choice, and how can you experience ongoing growth?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:31 and 15:58 together. How can the present form of this world be passing away while our labor in the Lord is not in vain? What is one relationship, responsibility, or decision you want to approach differently because of that reality?

GIVE (DONATE)

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OVERVIEW

- Paul CONTINUES his counsel concerning marriage in light of the present distress (vv. 25-28).
- The passing world RELATIVIZES the circumstances of ordinary life (vv. 26-31).
- Remaining unmarried offers a practical ADVANTAGE (vv. 32–-5).
- There is FREEDOM in decisions about marriage and remarriage (vv. 36-40).

IMPLICATIONS

- We can learn to see the genuine VALUE of singleness (1 Cor. 7:32-35, cf. Matt. 19:10-12).
- Take present responsibilities seriously without treating present circumstances as ULTIMATE (1 Cor. 7:29-31, cf. 1 Cor. 15:58; Col. 3:17)
- Pursue WISDOM where Scripture gives you FREEDOM (1 Cor. 7:25-28, cf. James 1:5; Rom. 14:15-16)

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