

Week 12 Discussion Questions

**SPECIAL NOTE: Next week will be our last week of discussion questions for 2024!
We'll resume the questions in early January.**

Text: 1 Cor 7:1-24¹

Icebreaker: What are your plans for Thanksgiving and Christmas? What will your LifeGroup schedule be for the rest of the year?

1. Read this week's passage. What stands out to you from the text or from the sermon you heard Sunday?

2. Verses 1-5 begin Paul's response to a misguided belief that it's good to avoid sex even in marriage. How would you summarize Paul's reply in these verses?

Application: From verses 3-5, what is the attitude or perspective a husband and wife should have about sexual intimacy? How does this compare with common attitudes about sex that you've heard expressed in our culture today?

3. What does Paul's instruction in verse 5 about a husband and wife's mutual commitment to prayer imply about God's desire for married couples in the church?

Application: How can a husband and wife encourage each other's faith? How can a believing spouse who's married to an unbeliever find encouragement from others?

4. Verses 10-16 relate to marriage and divorce. According to these verses, what kind of attitude should a Christian have toward divorce? When might it be permissible?

Application: Whether you are single or married, how do you think the church can be a place where marriages are strengthened and those who have been divorced can be encouraged?

¹ Chapter 7 is our last section of 1 Corinthians before we transition to our Advent series. Each campus is taking a slightly different approach to chapter 7 but the questions this week and next (verses 25-40) will cover the entire chapter. These questions will resume in early January when we pick back up in 1 Corinthians 8.

5. Verses 17-24 appear as a change in topic but more likely are meant as an instruction to be applied to marriage and singleness. Why might someone who has recently come to faith in Jesus seek to change their marital status?

Application: What does this instruction teach us about the value of both marriage and singleness from God's perspective? Do you think our culture shares this perspective? How about our church?