

Week 13 Discussion Questions

EXTRA SPECIAL NOTE: This is our final week of discussion questions for 2024!

We'll start back up in early January.

Text: 1 Cor 7:25-40¹

Icebreaker: What has been most helpful to you so far in our *Undivided* series?

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

2. Read verses 25-35. What are Paul's motivations for the guidance he gives?

Application: How would you compare Paul's counsel about marriage and singleness to common reasons in our culture today for getting married or remaining single?

3. Paul places a high value on singleness. What advantages does a single person have according to these verses?

Application: Singles, rather than feeling valued, sometimes feel pressure to be married. How can a church like Calvary grow in its practice of including and encouraging singles?

4. In verses 25-40, Paul acknowledges that, while his guidance is not a direct command from the Lord (v. 25), his words are nonetheless guided by God's Spirit (v. 40). Where in this passage can we see evidence that Paul's guidance is influenced by God's Spirit?

Application: There are countless scenarios not directly addressed in Scripture where we might find ourselves wondering what God's will is for us regarding our singleness or marriage. How can we seek out Spirit-guided counsel when we're not sure what's best?

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 last week (verses 1-24) and this week cover the entire chapter. Discussion questions will resume in early January when we pick back up in 1 Corinthians 8.

5. Chapter 7 has addressed situations where one option (singleness) is better, but the alternative (marriage) is still said to be good. In what ways are both singleness and marriage gifts from God?

Application: Based on your own experience, what advantages have you noticed in being single or married? How do these advantages relate to your relationship with the Lord?