

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: March 24, 2019
1 Corinthians 7:1-9

1. What did we talk about last week, in chapter 6? _____
2. What is Paul talking about in verse 1?
 - a. Sexual relations.
 - b. Since it was understood that sexual relations should only happen within the context of a marriage relationship, he is really talking about marriage.
3. What does he say about it? _____
4. Why do you think Paul would say that it is better for people not to be married (Be careful!)? _
5. Why, according to verse 2, does Paul say that people should get married? _____

6. What do verses 3-5 say about sexual relations within the marriage relationship?
 - a. "Fulfill the marital duty..."
 - b. Neither husband nor wife own their own body but, since they have become one flesh, their bodies belong to one another.
 - c. Do not deprive each other!
7. What, according to verse 5, might be the only reason to stay apart?
 - a. By mutual consent!
 - b. For an agreed upon time...
 - c. To devote themselves to prayer.
8. Does Paul think this is the best plan, according to verses 5-9?
 - a. He says that his primary reasoning is so that Satan will not tempt them because they lack self-control.
 - b. Verse 6 says, this is a concession.
 - c. He says that he believes it would be better for people to remain unmarried and celibate so that they could devote themselves fully to God.
9. What does Paul say to married couples, in verses 10-11?
 - a. He says they should stay married.
 - b. He suggests that if they do separate, they should remain unmarried with the hope of reconciliation.
10. Why does Paul speak in verses 12-16 rather than declaring the Lord's word?
 - a. Because, since most of scripture commands people to not intermarry with those who do not believe in the same God, most of the commands in scripture do not speak on a situation where one spouse is a believer and the other is not.
 - b. He is trying to help people understand that he believes that the command of God for the believer does not change if the person who we are married to is not a believer.
 - c. Situations where spouses are unequally yoked (2 Corinthians 6:14) are very difficult because the goals of the two spouses are at odds. While we as believers must continue to follow the commands of God, it is possible that the ungodly spouse might choose against remaining married through no fault of the believing spouse.
 - d. He is instructing the believing spouse to hold out hope that their godly life will win over the unbelieving spouse.