1 Corinthians – “One In Christ”

 Session #7 – Chapter 7 - “To Marry or Not to Marry ”

A. SYNOPSIS OF OUR PREVIOUS STUDY: 1 Corinthians Part 1

Chapters 1-6: Paul Advocates Unity Among Christians

Paul addresses issues causing disunity in the Corinthian Church. He affirms that Christ not, personalities is the basis for unity in the Church. The message of the cross is a mystery revealed by the Holy Spirit. He also addresses issues of immorality in the congregation that are causing disunity.

B ORIENTATION FOR OUR NEXT STUDY: 1 Corinthians Part 2

Chapters 7-16: Paul answers questions about lifestyle and faith

C. OBJECTIVES FOR THIS SESSION – Chapter 7 - To Marry Or Not

1. To grow in awareness of marriage as God’s plan for men and women.

2. To observe God’s will concerning singlehood, divorce and re-marriage.

C. READ THE WORD – 1 Corinthians 7 – *New International Version*

D. STUDY THE WORD

1. Section 1 - 7:1-9 - Marriage as God’s plan

A. V1 – 2: Following God’s plan helps to avoid sexually immoral behavior

B. V3 – 9: Specific instructions about God’s marital plan is to function.

2. Section 2 - 7:10-40: - Counsel to the married & unmarried

A. V10-11: Instruction regarding divorce among believers

B. V12-16: Instruction about marriage & divorce among Christians & pagans.

C. V17-24 – Instruct ion about accepting life as it is

 By Christ’s power, learn to live with your situation in life.

D. V25-40 – Advice to those Christians who are unmarried.

 Consider your life as a Christian before making decisions about marriage.

E. THE WORD FOR ME

Marriage is not commanded. However, it is God’s plan for men and women who desire this relationship, which is intended to be life-long. All Christians have the choice as to marry or not, within the scope of God’s plan for them.

God provides blessings for both the married and those who choose to remain single. Your place in life as a follower of Christ should influence your decision about this issue, not family or peer pressure.