



First Corinthians

Instructions to the Church

1 Corinthians 1:2 (NIV) To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ--their Lord and ours:

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“they were washed, they were sanctified, they were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.”

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I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

1 Corinthians 7:17-20 (NIV) ¹⁷ Nevertheless, each one should retain the place in life that the Lord assigned to him and to which God has called him. This is the rule I lay down in all the churches.

¹⁸ Was a man already circumcised when he was called? He should not become uncircumcised. Was a man uncircumcised when he was called? He should not be circumcised.

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¹⁹ Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing. Keeping God's commands is what counts. ²⁰
Each one should remain in the situation which he was in when God called him.

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I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

A. If you are Married

1. It is the proper relationship to fulfill needs sexually and emotionally.

1 Corinthians 7:2-4 (NIV) ² But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. ³ The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband.

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Instructions to the Church

I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

A. If you are Married

1. It is the proper relationship to fulfill needs sexually and emotionally.

⁴The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife.

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I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

A. If you are Married

2. From Genesis' to Revelation this relationship is blessed by God.

Matthew 19:5-6 (NIV) ⁵ ...'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh'? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

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Instructions to the Church

I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

A. If you are Married

3. Only provision given to end this relationship is infidelity by either individual.

Matthew 5:32 (NIV) But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery.

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I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

A. If you are Married

4. If separated, without infidelity, oneness is still present in God's eyes.

1 Corinthians 7:15 (NIV) But if the unbeliever leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is not bound in such circumstances;

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I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

B. If you end up Divorced

1. You are free to move on with your life.

1 Corinthians 7:15 (NIV) But if the unbeliever leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is not bound in such circumstances;

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I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

B. If you end up Divorced

2. You are to live in peace.

***1 Corinthians 7:15 (NIV)* ...God has called us to live in peace.**

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Instructions to the Church

I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

B. If you end up Divorced

3. You are to not second guess.

1 Corinthians 7:16 (NIV) How do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or, how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?

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I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

B. If you end up Divorced

4. Do not become a slave to anyone but God.

1 Corinthians 7:23 (NIV) You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.

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Instructions to the Church

I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

C. If you are Single

1. Wear this with a badge of honor.

1 Corinthians 6:12 (NIV) "Everything is permissible for me"--but not everything is beneficial. "Everything is permissible for me"--but I will not be mastered by anything.

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Instructions to the Church

I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

C. If you are Single

2. You have more time to devote to the Lord.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35 (NIV) ³² I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord's affairs--how he can please the Lord.
³³ But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world--how he can please his wife--

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Instructions to the Church

I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

C. If you are Single

2. You have more time to devote to the Lord.

³⁴ and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord's affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world--how she can please her husband.

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Instructions to the Church

I. Bloom where you are planted. Vs.17-20

C. If you are Single

2. You have more time to devote to the Lord.

³⁵ I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

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II. Let God define your life, not earthly circumstances. Vs.21-24

1 Corinthians 7:21-24 (NIV) ²¹ Were you a slave when you were called? Don't let it trouble you--although if you can gain your freedom, do so. ²² For he who was a slave when he was called by the Lord is the Lord's freedman; similarly, he who was a free man when he was called is Christ's slave. ²³ You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men. ²⁴ Brothers, each man, as responsible to God, should remain in the situation God called him to.

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Instructions to the Church

II. Let God define your life, not earthly circumstances. Vs.21-24

Philippians 4:12-13 (NIV) ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

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Instructions to the Church

II. Let God define your life, not earthly circumstances. Vs.21-24

A. “Through him”, I can be content in all situations of my marriage.

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II. Let God define your life, not earthly circumstances. Vs.21-24

B. “Through him”, I can be content in all situations of my singleness.

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II. Let God define your life, not earthly circumstances. Vs.21-24

Created in His image

Loved by God

Bought at a price

Redeemed by His grace

Adopted into his family

Indwelt with His presence

Called to carry out His purpose

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III. Never forget that you won't be here forever. Vs.29-31

1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (NIV) ²⁹ What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; 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.

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Instructions to the Church

III. Never forget that you won't be here forever. Vs.29-31

- a. It gives an urgency to getting the gospel out to the world.
- b. It helps us keep a proper perspective to the world and the things of the world.
- c. It has a purifying effect on the church. "He that has this hope in him, purifieth himself even as He is pure."

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Instructions to the Church

III. Never forget that you won't be here forever. Vs.29-31

A. Focus on the spiritual marriage and God will bless the physical marriage.

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III. Never forget that you won't be here forever. Vs.29-31

B. Focus on the spiritual marriage and God will bless the physical singleness.



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