



CHRIST CHURCH

UNITED METHODIST

LIFE APPLICATION MESSAGE
 SERIES: THE PRODIGAL CHURCH
 TEACHING: PART 13, SEX, SINGLENESS, AND MARRIAGE
 SCRIPTURE: 1 CORINTHIANS 7:1-16

FOUR UNDERSTANDINGS REGARDING GOD'S GIFT OF SEX, SINGLENESS AND MARRIAGE:

(Based on 1 Corinthians 7:1-16)

1. UNDERSTAND THAT _____ IS A _____ FROM GOD.

"Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: 'It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman.' But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband."

1 Corinthians 7:1-2 (ESV)

2. UNDERSTAND GOD'S _____ FOR _____.

"The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but he wife does. Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer, but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control."

1 Corinthians 7:3-5 (ESV)

"Sex is a way to say to somebody else 'I belong completely and exclusively to you,' and if you use it to say anything else, it's a lie. It's a nonverbal piece of communication God designed, and it's meant to carry a message...God said sex is a way to give yourself totally to somebody else and to say, 'I belong completely and totally and exclusively to you.'"

-Tim Keller

3. UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE DOES NOT ELEVATE _____ OVER _____.

“To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single as I am. But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.”

1 Corinthians 7:8-9 (ESV)

4. UNDERSTAND THE _____ OF THE _____ COVENANT.

“To the married I give this charge (not I, but the Lord): the wife should not separate from her husband (but if she does, she should remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband), and the husband should not divorce his wife.”

1 Corinthians 7:10-11 (ESV)

“To the rest I say (I, not the Lord) that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her. If any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she should not divorce him.”

1 Corinthians 7:12-13 (ESV)

“For the unbelieving husband is made holy because of his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy because of her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.”

1 Corinthians 7:14 (ESV)

“But if the unbelieving partner separates, let it be so. In such case the brother or sister is not enslaved. God has called you to peace. For how do you know, wife, whether you will save your husband? Or how do you know, husband, whether you will save your wife?”

1 Corinthians 7:15-16 (ESV)