

in 1 Corinthians 7 is the question of marrying or not marrying. Some people were saying it wasn't right for Christians to marry---.... So Paul set the record straight.

Verse 1 is not the commandment we 9-year-olds thought it was. It's probably a restatement of the issue the Corinthian people had written to him about. His answer begins with verse 2: Marriage is the institution God provided to help keep people sexually pure. It gives a man and a woman the only godly relationship for the expression of sexual intimacy.

Should everyone get married, though? Not necessarily, Paul indicated in verse 8. Yet one thing is clear: If a Christian cannot tolerate the life of sexual abstinence as a single, he or she should seek God's guidance in finding a mate. Sexual intimacy outside marriage is **always** wrong.

Serving God is not reserved exclusively for either the single or the married. Both should do God's will. Paul said that "each man has his own gift from God" (v.9). ... --DB

## REFLECTION

- Where do I get my ideas about marriage? From watching television? Listening to friends? Watching my parents? Reading secular fiction?
- Is my attitude toward marriage secular or biblical? How do I know? Reading 1 Corinthians 6:12-7:39 might help.

**Singleness is no less a gift from God than marriage.**

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*Please feel free to contact the Pastor for any needs you may have, queries, or questions about our church family.*

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# Central Mountains Baptist Church

## 25 OCTOBER, 2009

### *Information for Visitors.*

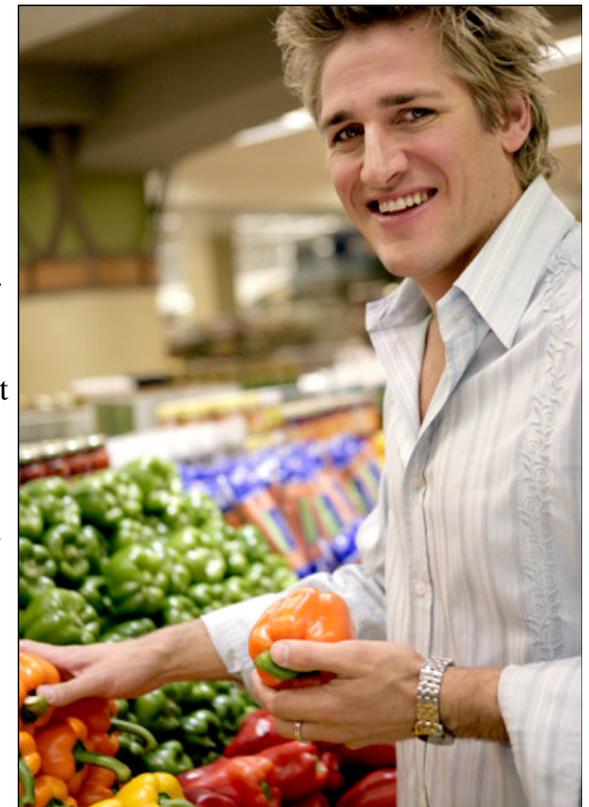
- \* We're glad you're here. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You're very welcome to join us for a cuppa after church.
- \* a Cubbies programme is normally provided, during the sermon for the **toddler to Kindy age bracket.**

## To Marry or Not To Marry

When I was a kid, my favorite verse was 1 Corinthians 7:1. In fact, several of us 9-year-old boys thought Paul was pretty wise to say, ". . . it is good for a man not to touch a woman." .. We couldn't figure out why anyone would want to do that anyway. All we knew was that most girls didn't like to play cricket at recess.

But we didn't stay 9 years old. The older we got, the less we liked that verse. We began to see why Paul put verse 2 in there.

What Paul was talking about





# Our Home

## Singleness and Marriage

1 Corinthians 7 discusses two life situations:

1. \_\_\_\_\_, 1 Corinthians 5:9-11, 6:9-11, 7:1-2, 7-8, 17-24, 26-28, 32-35, 37-40,

**(Matthew 19:11-12)** "... All cannot accept this saying, but only those to whom it has been given: {12} "For there are eunuchs who were born thus from their mother's womb, and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He who is able to accept it, let him accept it.""

**(1 Timothy 4:1)** "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,"....

**(1 Timothy 4:3)** "forbidding to marry, ...."



2. \_\_\_\_\_, verses 1-6, 9-16, 28,

**(Matthew 19:9)** "'And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.'"

**(Hebrews 13:4)** "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge."

**(Proverbs 18:22)** "He who finds a wife finds a good thing, And obtains favor from the LORD."

