



Body Building wk2: Good Gifts

Introduction: Sex is one of God's good gifts to married husbands and wives. Because that's true, and that it is limited to those relationships, sometimes we see that as an ultimate gift or married relationships as the ultimate goal. What if we began to see that both married people and single people have a gift to be used for God's glory?

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever had a gift that you really didn't want or saw someone with a gift that you would have preferred? Why do we look down on some gifts and desire others?
2. Read **1 Corinthians 7:1-8** Which part of Paul's instruction here would have caused the original readers to take notice the most? We have seen different religious cults that have tried to control the sex lives of their followers, including those who were married. Why do you think that is a common tactic? What is Paul advocating for? How have those verses been misapplied at times? Why is sex an important part of a marriage relationship?
3. In the sermon, Jeremy said that sometimes we have a church culture that has made marriage and idol, while living in a culture that has made sexual freedom and singleness an idol. What is the problem with both of these ideas?
4. Read **1 Corinthians 7:29-31** What does he mean when he says he wants married people to act like they aren't married? What is he talking about when he says the world in it's "present form" is passing away?
5. Read **1 Corinthians 7:32-38** What are some things that Paul says are the benefit to remaining single? Why does he call one status "better?" What are some ways that we can make room for and include single people in church life?
6. When it comes to marriage or relationships, what is the "e-Harmony myth?" What is the danger is looking for the "perfect person" to marry? What is the danger in being in a romantic relationship with someone who is not a Christian? How can Christian community be helpful in the process of finding a spouse without treating singles like there were something wrong with them being single?

Shaping Your Mind – *I wish that all of you were as I am. But each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. 1 Cor. 7:7*

Moving Forward – Both singleness and marriage are gifts for God’s purposes.