



Complete these question BEFORE your Growth Group meets and then use your answers in discussion.

1 Corinthians 7.1-16

Sex & marriage

TO PONDER:

What difficulties do Christians face when it comes to sex and marriage and following the way of Christ?

This issues raised in this passage are important and sensitive. Be gracious and considerate with one another as you wrestle with them together.

Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-7

Paul in this letter now begins to respond to the Corinthian Christians on particular issues that they had written to him about. But we don't have their letter.

What would you guess is the Corinthian question that the apostle is answering here?

How would you summarise Paul's answer?

Our culture emphasises that we are in charge of our bodies. How does the apostle's teaching in these verses compare with that idea?

How might God's attitude to sex in these verses surprise our unbelieving friends?

How is God's attitude to sex in these verses consistent with the rest of the Bible?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:8-16

What do we learn of God's attitude to marriage in these verses?

"Christians should be more interested in holiness than romance." Discuss this statement in the light of these verses.

Discuss this statement:- *"Paul is not saying everything enthuse verses about marriage, divorce & remarriage, but what he is saying is fundamentally important."*

What comfort does the apostle offer to people who have become Christian but their partner has not?

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**What lessons have you learned from this passage?**

**What questions do you have from this passage?**

**Why do we Christians lack confidence in celebrating the Christian vision for sex, marriage and family?**

**How can we grow such confidence within our church family?**

***Pray about the issues God's Spirit has raised in his Word in this passage.***