



“Letters to the Corinthians” Study Notes

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Lesson 13: Complicated Relationships

1 Corinthians 7:6-16

Read Mark 10:2-10. Again, what does Jesus affirm about marriage in this passage? (Consider how God made humans, for what purpose, and for what duration.)

Read Romans 12:14-18. How do we know that these commands are not intended only to be obeyed within the context of the body of Christ? How are we to interact with others? What is the underlying principle put forth here, summed up in verse 18? How does this correlate with 1 Corinthians 7:6-16?

Read 1 Peter 3:1-2. What situation is Peter addressing here? What kind of conduct does he point to in the wife? What is a potential outcome from this conduct?

Read 1 Peter 3:7. How are husbands to treat their wives? What two reasons are we given for why husbands should do this? What does that tell you about the responsibility placed on husbands?

Read 1 Peter 3:13-17. Who are these commands given to? What is the underlying principle of these instructions? Where should our focus be in all circumstances?

As you spend time with God today, thank God for the relationships you find yourself in today. Ask God to help you to see how to honor Him in these relationships. Ask Him to help you to be content where He has placed you, to seek His will and wisdom in these relationships, and ask Him to help you to keep your focus on glorifying Him in all your interactions. If you have been sowing strife and discord in your relationships, repent. Ask God to help you to strive to live at peace, as much as it is up to you, and to have the wisdom to know what boundaries may need to be put in place for this to happen. While you cannot control the people around you and you cannot force anyone to “get saved”, ask God to work on the hearts of those around you who do not know Him, and ask Him to help you to see opportunities to share the Gospel with them. Thank God for saving you, for bringing YOU into the precious covenantal relationship with Him, and ask Him to give you boldness and gentleness to share the hope you have with those around you.