

# CALLED TO BE SAINTS **TOGETHER**

## Marriage, Sex, and the Gift of God

### 1 Corinthians 7:1-7 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: "It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman."

<sup>2</sup> But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. <sup>3</sup> The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. <sup>4</sup> 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 the wife does. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. <sup>7</sup> I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another.

### The **context**:

A culture ...

A letter ...

A preference ...

A desire ...

### Some **lessons**:

1) It's ok to be single and \_\_\_\_\_. It's not ok to be single and \_\_\_\_\_.

Why?

2) One of the (not the only) reasons for marriage is \_\_\_\_\_.

This tells us ...

3) \_\_\_\_\_ is the only biblical norm for marriage.

4) Sex (in marriage) is about \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_,  
not \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul's intentional paradox:

When and why should a couple "take a break"?

5) Marriage – and all that it entails – is a \_\_\_\_\_.

How can I treat it that way?