Marriage and Divorce
1 Corinthians 7 – A Higher Calling

Paul begins _____ **to** _____ **:**

1 Corinthians 7:1-4 Now for the matters you wrote about…

Marriage is a _____ _____ **.**

We are commanded _____ **to** _____ **in most situations for good reason.**

Malachi 2:13-16 Another thing you do: You flood the LORD's altar with tears… [14]You ask, "Why?" It is because the LORD is acting as the witness between you and the wife of your youth, <u>because you have broken faith with her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant</u>. [15]Has not [the LORD] made them one? In flesh and spirit they are his. And why one? <u>Because he was seeking godly offspring</u>. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith with the wife of your youth. [16]"<u>I hate divorce</u>," says the LORD God of Israel, "and <u>I hate a man's covering himself with violence</u> as well as with his garment," says the LORD Almighty. So guard yourself in your spirit, and do not break faith.

Separation/divorce is _____ **in some** _____ **.**

1 Corinthians 7:15 But if the unbeliever leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is <u>not bound</u> in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace.

Matt 5:31-32 "It has been said, 'Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.' [32]But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery."

Matt 19:8-9 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. [9]I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery."

_____ **is permitted in some very** _____ **situations.**

1 Corinthians 7:39 A woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, but he must belong to the Lord. NIV

Romans 7:2-3 …by law a married woman is bound to her husband as long as he is alive, but if her husband dies, she is released from the law of marriage. [3]So then, if she marries another man while her husband is still alive, she is called an adulteress. But if her husband dies, she is released from that law and is not an adulteress, even though she marries another man.

Matt. 19:8-9 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. [9]I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery."

1 Cor. 7:8-9 Now to the <u>unmarried</u> and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I am. [9]But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion. NIV

1 Cor. 7:27-28 Are you bound [married] to a wife? Do not seek to be released [loosed/divorced/free]. Are you released [loosed/unmarried/free] from a wife? Do not seek a wife. [28] But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you. NAS

1 Cor. 7:13-15 And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him… [15]But if the unbeliever leaves, let him do so. A believing man or woman is <u>not bound</u> in such circumstances; God has called us to live in peace.

_____ is _____ in many situations.

Matt. 19:8-9 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. [9]I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery."

1 Cor. 7:10-11 To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. [11]But if she does, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

Some situations are incredibly _____.

1 Peter 2:19-21 For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God… [21]To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. NIV

Matt. 19:3 Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?"

Matt. 19:8-12 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. [9]I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery." [10]The disciples said to him, "If this is the situation between a husband and wife, it is better not to marry." [11]Jesus replied, "Not everyone can accept this word, but only those to whom it has been given.

1 Cor. 7:10-11 To the married I give this command (not I, but the Lord): A wife must not separate from her husband. [11]<u>But if she does</u>, she must remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband. And a husband must not divorce his wife.

Thoughts:

- God has a high _____ on our lives.
- God is not _____ on these issues.
- God wants to bring _____ through the standards He sets.
- If you're married, put your _____ into _____ the marriage.
- If you're _____, take _____ seriously.
- If you made _____, there is _____.