

## Discussion questions

1 Cor 7vs1-16

*The gift you have received: a word about being married*

### Possible opening:

Read 1 Corinthians 7vs1-9. What struck you about the sermon or passage this week?

1. What kind of impressions did you grow up with about marriage? Were they positive or negative? Would Paul calling it a gift have surprised you? (see 1 Corinthians 7vs7)
2. What are some of the reasons Paul gives us for having a high view of sexual intimacy? Do you think that the world understands why Christians have a different sexual ethic than our culture?
3. How does this passage of scripture uplift women in a way that the ancient world did not?
4. If all this is true, what are some ways we can point to the gospel in our marriages?

Read 1 Corinthians 7vs7-9

5. What is so good about being single? If you're married, what are some ways you were able to serve the Lord as a single? What are some unique ways you can serve the Lord as a married couple?
6. If you're single, what are some things you wish that married couples in the church knew about being single in the 21st century? What are some steps the church can take to grow in being brothers and sisters in Christ?
7. How can we get away from the separation between marrieds and singles, and work together better understanding and supporting each other whatever our marital status?

Read 1 Corinthians 7:10-16

8. How would you help a Christian friend who is struggling with some of these difficulties in their marriage and is considering separation or divorce?
9. In what ways does a spouse pursuing restoration and reconciliation model the gospel?

Are there any questions from the last three weeks sermons or Bible studies that the group would like to ask the Question Panel on Sunday 3 April? Please take the time to consider and send the questions through to [stephenrae@fulwoodchurch.co.uk](mailto:stephenrae@fulwoodchurch.co.uk) by Thursday 30 March.