

“How can I glorify God in my relationship?”
1 Corinthians 7:8-16

I. Believers have been called to glorify God in their relationships.

A. What should believers do if they have been married but now they are single (vs. 8-9)?

- If they have self-control, they should remain single.
- If they do not have self-control, they should seek marriage.

B. What should believers do if they are married to a believer (vs. 10-11)?

- They should remain married as Jesus taught.
- If their marriage ends in divorce, they should remain unmarried unless reconciled to their spouse.

C. What should believers do if they are married to an unbeliever who wants to remain in their marriage (vs. 12-14)?

- The believer is to remain married.
- The believer has a role of sanctifying his or her home.

D. What should believers do if they are married to an unbeliever who wants to leave their marriage (vs. 15-16)?

- The believer is to allow the unbelieving spouse to leave.
- The believer then has the freedom to remarry in such cases.

(Genesis 30:27; 39:2-3; Malachi 5:13-16; Matthew 5:31-32; 19:3-12; 1 Corinthians 6:20; 2 Corinthians 6:14-18)

II. To be successful in living a life that honors God, believers must:

- must have a desire to honor God with their life.
- must live in a way that is according to the truth in God's word.

Scripture References and Notes

1 Corinthians 6:20

For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

to burn *with passion*

- πυρόω (puroó)
- to set on fire, to burn (pass.)
- pass: I burn, am set on fire, am inflamed; glow with heat, am purified by fire.

Malachi 5:13-16

¹³“This is another thing you do: you cover the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping and with groaning, because He no longer regards the offering or accepts *it with favor* from your hand. ¹⁴Yet you say, ‘For what reason?’ Because the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. ¹⁵But not one has done *so* who has a remnant of the Spirit. And what did *that one do* while he was seeking a godly offspring? Take heed then to your spirit, and let no one deal treacherously against the wife of your youth. ¹⁶For I hate divorce,” says the LORD, the God of Israel, “and him who covers his garment with wrong,” says the LORD of hosts. “So take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously.”

Matthew 19:3-12

³Some Pharisees came to Jesus, testing Him and asking, “Is it lawful *for a man* to divorce his wife for any reason at all?” ⁴And He answered and said, “Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning MADE THEM MALE AND FEMALE, ⁵ and said, ‘FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH’? ⁶ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.” ⁷ They said to Him, “Why then did Moses command to GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE AND SEND *her away*?” ⁸ He said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart Moses permitted you to divorce your wives; but from the beginning it has not been this way. ⁹ And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.” ¹⁰ The disciples said to Him, “If the relationship of the man with his wife is like this, it is better not to marry.” ¹¹ But He said to them, “Not all men *can* accept this statement, but *only* those to whom it has been given. ¹² For there are eunuchs who were born that way from their mother’s womb; and there are eunuchs who were made eunuchs by men; and there are *also* eunuchs who made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. He who is able to accept *this*, let him accept *it*.”

Matthew 5:31-32

³¹“It was said, ‘WHOEVER SENDS HIS WIFE AWAY, LET HIM GIVE HER A CERTIFICATE OF DIVORCE’; ³²but I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except for *the* reason of unchastity, makes her commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

¹⁴Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? ¹⁵Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? ¹⁶Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, “I WILL DWELL IN THEM AND WALK AMONG THEM; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. ¹⁷“Therefore, COME OUT FROM THEIR MIDST AND BE SEPARATE,” says the Lord. “AND DO NOT TOUCH WHAT IS UNCLEAN; And I will welcome you. ¹⁸“And I will be a father to you, And you shall be sons and daughters to Me,” Says the Lord Almighty.

Genesis 30:27

But Laban said to him, “If now it pleases you, *stay with me*; I have divined that the LORD has blessed me on your account.”

Genesis 39:2-3

²The LORD was with Joseph, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master, the Egyptian. ³Now his master saw that the LORD was with him and *how* the LORD caused all that he did to prosper in his hand.

1 Peter 3:1-2

¹ In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any *of them* are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives, ² as they observe your chaste and respectful behavior.