## "Home Improvement Projects, Part 2"

Sunday, August 4, 2024, 10:30 a.m. Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI Pastor Jonathan DeCou *1 Corinthians 7:1-24* 

**BIG IDEA**: Authentic Christian singles can lead successful & satisfying lives.

"I say to the unmarried and to widows: It is good for them if they remain as I am." 1 Corinthians 7:8 (CSB)

- Wisdom for <u>believers</u> who are <u>unmarried</u>. (v25-40)
  - Believing singles can enjoy <u>freedom</u> vs. <u>constraint</u>. (v25-28)
  - Believing singles can focus on what's <u>eternal</u> vs. what's <u>temporal</u>. (v29-31)
  - Believing singles can live a life of <u>devotion</u> vs. <u>distraction</u>. (v32-35)
  - Believing singles must maintain <u>control</u> vs. <u>compulsion</u>. *(v36-38)*
  - Believing singles can be <u>versatile</u> vs. being <u>limited</u>. (v39-40)

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## How to <u>build</u> a <u>healthy</u> & <u>lasting</u> relationship.

- Build <u>spiritually</u>.
- Build socially.

- Build intellectually.
- Build emotionally.
- Build physically.

## **Questions** for those <u>contemplating</u> marriage:

- What is my "gift" from God?
- Am I marrying a believer?
- Are the <u>circumstances</u> such that marriage is <u>right</u> at this <u>time</u>?
- How will marriage <u>affect</u> my <u>devotion</u> to the Lord Jesus Christ?
- Am I prepared to commit to this union for life?

## READ: 1 Corinthians 7:25-40

**THINK**: Think about the single life, and then ask yourself these questions: *Are you* more free-spirited or do you like routines and schedules? How might that personality difference between two people affect the marriage they may be contemplating? How is a single person able to focus more on eternal concerns than married people? Why is "full devotion" easier for singles than married people? How can single people control their sexual passion in our present culture? Why does God make marriage "for life"?

**DO**: As a single, determine to follow God's plan for relationships. Whether you have never been married, are currently married, divorced, or widowed, what is one way you can show your "undivided devotion" to the Lord this week?