

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: October 24, 2021
1 Corinthians 6:12-7:9

1. What were the Corinthians saying to each other and perhaps even to Paul, in 6:12? _____

2. What is Paul's response, according to the second part of 6:12?
 - a. You're right, have at it! Enjoy your freedom.
 - b. Not everything is beneficial.
 - c. I will not be mastered by anything.
3. What was the meaning of what the Corinthians were saying in 6:13?
 - a. We have a stomach and it hungers, so we should eat.
 - b. We have other things that also have desires and we should fulfill them.
 - c. If it feels good do it.
 - d. I'm not really sure.
4. Does this sound familiar? Yes _____ No _____
Have you heard people say something similar to this in our culture today? Yes _____ No _____
What about in the church? _____
Have you ever said something like this? Yes _____ No _____ Explain. _____
5. Paul argues against this thinking by reminding us that we were not created for the fulfilment of our every desire. Rather, what was the body meant for, according to Paul?
 - a. For our own pleasure.
 - b. For sexual immorality.
 - c. So that we could do what feels good.
 - d. For the Lord. We should not be surprised when our thinking on this differs from the world's. We start from a different understanding of our reason for existence. However, this is another area where we (the church) must not conform any longer to the pattern of this world (Romans 12:2).
6. What does it mean, in verse 14, that our bodies are members of Christ himself?
 - a. I'm my own person and I can do whatever I want, as long as it doesn't hurt anybody else.
 - b. We are a part of his body.
 - c. Whatever we touch, taste, or do is as if Christ himself (or at least a part of him) were doing it. If we are doing things that Christ wouldn't do, then perhaps we are not members of His body.
7. Does this argument have anything to do with unbelievers? Yes _____ No _____ Explain. _____

8. What does verse 6:18 say that we should do when it comes to sexual immorality?
 - a. Flirt with it, as long as you don't give in.
 - b. Look at pictures, as long as you don't actually do anything in response to them.
 - c. Talk to that person who says nice things about you, but don't actually do anything with them.
 - d. Explore your feelings and emotions to see where they go even when the Holy Spirit is telling you deep down that they are wrong.
 - e. Flee from it!
9. Against whom or what are you sinning when you commit sexual immorality? _____

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1 Corinthians 6:12-7:9

10. What do 6:16-17 say about the sexual relationship?
- a. It unites us.
 - b. We become one flesh.
 - c. It seems to say that there is something special that happens in this moment that is beyond the physical.
11. Why might Paul say, in 7:1, that it is good not to have sexual relations (see also 7:32-33)?
- a. I don't know, he must have been crazy.
 - b. When you are united with a spouse, you now must care for that spouse.
 - c. Without a spouse, you can focus more on the Lord.
12. What does 7:3-4 mean?
- a. Sex is a duty that some married people just have to do even if they don't want to.
 - b. There are certain things that only a spouse can and should do. We should not neglect those things.
 - c. When husband and wife become one flesh, we live to complete each other. This is one of the best opportunities in all humanity to demonstrate true selfless love...and one of the most damaging and hurtful experiences when we don't. Our utter vulnerability and reliance on each other in this area can create a bond that does not exist in other human relationships.
13. Why might some people have gotten the idea that sex is a duty (in the bad sense) or is something other than a very personal and special thing that only a husband and wife can really experience as it should be?
- a. Because the church has talked about it like it is dirty (or not talked about it at all).
 - b. Because there are people out there who have made it a negative thing for others and some of us still struggle with understanding it how it should be because of these experiences.
 - c. Because the media has made it into something that it is not and usually portrays it as a means of self-indulgence.
 - d. Because almost everybody we know, if they talk about it at all, talks about it as a means of self-gratification.
14. What is the only reason that Paul lists for a husband and wife to "deprive" each other (by mutual consent)? _____
15. Does this mean that we should use the Bible as a weapon in our marital disagreements to prove to our spouse what they should and shouldn't do for us? Yes _____ No _____ Explain. _____
- Does this mean that if I want to spend more time in prayer and my spouse does not, I can deprive him/her and then hold it over their head how unspiritual they are for wanting to keep me from praying? Yes _____ No _____ Explain. _____
16. Is it possible for a spouse to make this a negative experience for their own spouse? Yes _____ No _____ How can we avoid this? _____
17. What can we do to make sure that sex is what God intended it to be (and not what the world has made it) for us and for the people around us? _____