

Group Leader Guide Series: Till Death Do Us Part – Week 4 Scripture: 1 Corinthians 7:1-7

Leader Notes:

Well, we have arrived at the week everyone has been waiting on! We are going to spend some time talking about what the Bible has to say about sex. There are likely only going to be two kinds of responses to this talk. People are going to be dying to talk about it, or they are not going to want to talk about this at all.

As a leader, you should want people to walk away knowing this: Sex outside of marriage is to be run from. Sex in marriage is to be run to!

Bottom Line:

God designed sex for marriage with the purpose of making us more like Jesus.

Introduction:

God wishes to order every area of our lives in such a way that we might give glory to him in our every action. In other words, God wants to order every part of our lives to honor Jesus and make us more like Jesus, including our sex lives! This is true whether we are married or not. However, married couples need to give some extra attention to this area so that we can ensure that our entire marriage, down to our physical intimacy, is honoring to God.

BELONG – Begin by allowing the group a time to connect and care for one another! Take prayer requests and start the group in prayer.

Ice Breaker Questions:

• How is the Christian's view of sex completely different from the world's?

*** To the singles in the group, it's ok not to be married. Approach this series to learn about marriage in the knowledge that you are in a different place in life.

BELIEVE – Take time to study the Bible together.

<u>1 Corinthians 7:1-7</u>

Now concerning the matters about which you wrote: "It is good for a man not to have sexual relations with a woman." ²-But because of the temptation to sexual immorality, each man should have his own wife and each woman her own husband. ³-The husband should give to his wife her conjugal rights, and likewise the wife to her husband. ⁴-For the wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does. Likewise the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does. ⁵Do not deprive one another, except perhaps by agreement for a limited time, that you may devote yourselves to prayer; but then come together again, so that Satan may not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

⁶Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. ²-I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another.

Teaching Points:

- Sexual immorality is any sexual activity outside of the covenant of marriage.
- Singleness is a good gift from God, but it is not the norm to be pursued due to the fact that sexual sin is tempting.
- Christians are to focus on pursuing selflessness in marriage and sexual relations.
- Sex in marriage is a gift to embrace. Sex outside of marriage is a sin to be avoided at all costs.
- If Christians have a good view of sex, then God can use it to grow them closer to Him by avoiding sexual sin and making us die to self.

Questions For Discussion

What does this passage teach us about God's design for marriage? How does this passage show us how temptation works in our life? How does sex God's way help us grow into the image of Christ How does Satan use sexual sin to derail people? What are examples of sexual sin that define our world today?

BECOME – Make application and determine to follow Christ better.

Close the group by praying for God to protect those who are married and make their marriages strong. For those who are not married, who are single, never married, or divorced, ask God to give them wisdom to live for his kingdom as fully as possible in this season.