

1 Corinthians 7:1-2,17-24,29-31,35 (May 8, 2022)

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ 1 Corinthians 7:1-2,17-24

1. In Verse 17, Paul urges us to “live the life that the Lord has assigned”. What does this seem to suggest about God’s role and our circumstances?

2. In Verse 21, Paul says, “But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity”. What does this seem to suggest about *our* role and our circumstances?

3. In the unfolding of your life—particularly as it relates to your coming to faith in Christ—how did God use your circumstances to bring you to Himself? (Please consider sharing a brief summary with your group)

4. As it relates to your spiritual growth or usefulness in serving the Lord, have you seen God continue to use your circumstances to help grow you toward maturity or use you in the life of others? (Again, please consider sharing a brief summary with your group)

READ 1 Corinthians 7:29-31,35

5. Some have interpreted these words as suggesting that Paul wants us to neglect our spouses, become stoic in our emotions, let our food and clothing rot, and have no dealings in the world. How might you summarize what Paul is saying, here?

6. In Verse 35, Paul makes it clear that he is not trying to impose rules or laws on us (any restraint). Yet, in Verse 31, he is also emphasizing the fact that “this world is passing away”. In light of this, what are 1 or 2 ways that you would like to relate differently in your life—relative to your time, talents, resources, relationships?