



**GOING DEEPER**  
March 16/17, 2019

**Teacher:** Pastor Tim

**Title:** Radical Marriage in a Reckless Age

**Scripture:** 1 Corinthians 7:1-16

**Summary:** Chapter 7 begins a new section of the letter peppered with the phrase: “Now concerning ...” Paul turns his attention to an attempt to answer specific questions raised by the Corinthians about a variety of topics. Chapter 7 specifically concerns the appropriateness of marriage, sex and singleness. It is important to understanding this text, to recognize what Paul is doing. He is not writing a formal treatise on marriage and sexuality. He is answering specific questions the Corinthian Christians raised.

**Main Idea:** Embracing a radical marriage in a climate not conducive to healthy marriage.

**Definition:** A Radical Marriage is a vibrant, healthy, intimate, sexually fulfilling, life-long relationship between a husband and wife within the covenant of marriage vows.

**Goal for This Weekend:** Without marginalizing those who are single, to call all married couples to “up their game.”

**Questions:**

1. The emphasis was made that rather than complain about the state of marriage in Canada today we should invest more effort in demonstrating how fulfilling radical marriages can be. I.e. A great marriage should stick out like a lighthouse on a dark seashore. Discuss the qualities of a healthy marriage that are so attractive that almost all people long for it and are drawn toward it.
2. Wrestle with the concept of the text that husbands and wives do not retain sole ownership of their own bodies but actually belong to each other. You might want to consider some risks and abuses of this principle and then consider the value of a relationship that intimate that you are actually partners of each other.

3. Paul seems to suggest that the effort and energy required to build a radical marriage is so great it is almost better, if one has the calling, to remain single. How can we better affirm the value of singleness in our fellowship?
4. Our culture has accepted divorce as normal. Without adding pain to those who have experienced the breakup of a marriage, how can we emphasize the value of outright battling for marriages? How far should we be willing to go to save a marriage?

**Resources:**

- Resources For Married Couples to Discuss Together:  
Over the next couple months, I recommend you commit to one date night each week and discuss one of the practices listed below.

7 Radical Practices:

1. Pay Rapt Attention To Your Season: season of ... establishing patterns; building careers; young children; empty nest/retirement/grandparenting/ used to be empty nest but they came back; menopause; care giving. What season are you in and how will you navigate it productively?
  2. Do Stuff Together
  3. Do Stuff Apart
  4. Keep Romance High
  5. Take Care of Your Body
  6. Realize There Are Some Affirmations Your Partner Needs from You
  7. Talk to God With and About Each Other
- For further resources or to have a further conversation please check out this [link](#) or go to Trinity Church website click on the Defying Gravity Banner page.

**Never Stop Praying:**

- For marriages within your family and within our church
- For relationships that are in need of reconciliation