

The Question About Celibacy and Marriage

1 Corinthians 07: 01–07

1 *There are special situations for not marrying*

2 *There is a condition necessitating marriage*

3 *There are mutual duties within marriage*

4 *There is to be mutual ownership of one another's body*

a. Each has equal rights over the other's body

b. Each belongs to the other so fully that to withhold is an act of fraud

c. Each must give consent to abstain — only for prayer

5 *There is the gift of marriage and the gift of being single*

1 Now for the matters you wrote about:
It is good for a man not to marry.

2 But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband.

3 The husband should fulfil his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband.

4 The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband.
In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife.

5 Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.

6 I say this as a concession, not as a command.

7 I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.