The Freedom of Singleness (1 Cor 7:32-35)

1. Freedom *from* the troubles of marriage (v. 28)

2. Freedom *from* pleasing your spouse (vs. 33-34)

3. Freedom *from* having divided interests (vs. 35)

4. Freedom *to* be single (vs. 32-35; Matt 19:10-12)

5. Freedom *to* dedicate your life with singular purpose to God (vs. 32, 34, 35)

Next Week: Singleness, Friendship & Community (Week 3)

Questions, concerns, feedback or comments? Email Deepak@capbap.org

The Gift & Freedom of Singleness (Week 2)

A Really Quick Overview of 1 Corinthians 7

- **7:1-7—**Responding to asceticism: Get married and fulfill your marital duty.
- **7:8-9—**To the unmarried and widows: Stay single like Paul, but if you burn, get married.
- **7:10-11**—To the married: Don't divorce; if you do, either be reconciled or stay unmarried.
- **7:12-16**—To the married with unbelieving spouse: Stay married if they are willing but if they leave, let them go.
- **7:12-24—**To each one in the church: Don't feel that your earthly status needs to change when God calls you to be a Christian.
- **7:25-38**—To the betrothed (virgins – NIV): Remain as you are. The time is short (v. 29).
- **7:39-40**—To the widows: You are free to remarry if your husband dies but should only marry a Christian.

The Gift of Singleness (1 Cor 7:7)

1. Singleness is for some, not others.

2. Singleness is not some mystical or magical ability to resist sexual temptation and reject marriage.

3. The gift of singleness is a recognition that God has given the gift of celibacy for a season (or for a few, maybe a lifetime).

    a. Not a status, i.e., single or married.

    b. The gift = spiritually motivated for singleness, live a self-controlled life, and contentment with what God has given.

4. If you have the gift, you'll be content like Paul (Phil 4:11-13).

5. Some singles can choose to remain single for a season (or even a lifetime).

6. Some singles should get married.

    a. Just because you "burn" (v. 9) doesn't mean you are *guaranteed* marriage.

    b. If you struggle with sexual immorality then you are burning. Don't wait to "fix" the problem.

    c. Contentment in singleness and an openness to marriage are not mutually exclusive.