MORNING STUDY

The Book of I Corinthians

19

Morning Devotions

Read a Scripture passage of your choice. Talk with the Lord as you read his Word. When you are finished, go back and select one or two verses and meditate thoughtfully and prayerfully on what he is saying to you.

Morning Study

In the last morning study, we read through the second section of Paul's first letter to the Corinthians – **chapters 7-10**. Now we will begin to look at this section more closely. These four chapters can be divided into four subsections and we will take each of these subsections separately. This morning, read the first subsection – **1 Corinthians 7:1-40** – and answer for yourself the questions associated with it. Type out your answers (or jot them down on a piece of paper) and file them together with your morning study.

Read 1 Corinthians 7:1-16

- **○** What did Paul say was the answer to immorality? (7:1-9).
- **○** What effect does a believer have on their unbelieving spouse? (7:10-14).
- **○** In what circumstances is the believing man or woman not bound? (7:15-16).

Read 1 Corinthians 7:17-24

- **○** What was the rule Paul laid down in all the churches? (7:17-18).
- **○** What does Paul say is the thing that counts? (7:19).
- ➡ What should be the Christian's focus in the situations of life they find themselves? (7:20-24).

Read 1 Corinthians 7:25-40

- ➡ Why did Paul say it was good for the Corinthians to remain in whatever situation of life they were in? (7:25-35).
- ⇒ Why was Paul encouraging the Corinthians to remain unmarried if they could? (7:29-38).
- **⊃** If a widow remarries, what is the qualification Paul says is most important in her husband-to-be? (7:39-40).

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MEMORY VERSE

It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God – that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.

1 Corinthians 1:30

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see **John 14:26**).
- Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice (James 1:22). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts (John 15:7). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!