

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

1 CORINTHIANS: A BEAUTIFUL MESS

1 Corinthians 7:17–24

DISCUSSION 1: REVIEW

1. What are some key things Paul has taught so far in 1 Corinthians 7?
2. Which of those themes are especially important to 7:17–24?

DISCUSSION 2: CONTENTMENT AND DISCONTENTMENT

1. When you think of contentment, what are some of the words and images that come to mind? What comes to mind when you think of discontentment?
2. How do our affluent culture, the pace at which we live, and social media make discontentment an even stronger temptation for us today?
3. What are some of the most common ways or arenas in which Christians in our world can be tempted with discontentment?

DISCUSSION 3: CHRIST AND CONTENTMENT

1. How do the following truths help us fight for contentment in Christ?
 - a. The Lord is sovereign over our circumstances (7:17).
 - b. If God has put us in a place, role, or relationship, he has called us to honor him there at least in this season (7:17).
 - c. We can still follow Christ and keep his commandments in any scenario (7:19).
 - d. We were bought by Christ and now belong to Christ (7:23).
2. The main idea from the sermon was: “The Christian can remain content in life because God’s calling is to a person, not a position or set of circumstances.” Why is remembering this important when we might have difficult people or unwanted circumstances in our life?
3. If discontentment is theological (rooted in a wrong belief about God), why do we need to fight by reminding ourselves what is true of God? How does thinking rightly about God or remembering His promises or His character help us fight discontentment?
4. What are some of the promises and truths about God to remember, cling to, and pray in light of as we fight against discontentment and for contentment?
5. What is one way this group can be praying for you to find contentment in Christ in this season?