

Welcome!



1 CORINTHIANS

SINNERS *made* SAINTS

1 Corinthians 7: 10 (ESV)

To the married I give this charge (not I, but the Lord): the wife should not separate from her husband

1 Corinthians 7: 11 (ESV)

(but if she does, she should remain unmarried or else be reconciled to her husband), and the husband should not divorce his wife.

Hebrews 8: 12 (ESV)

*For I will be merciful toward
their iniquities, and I will
remember their sins no
more.*

Isaiah 43: 25 (ESV)

*I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and **I will not remember your sins.***

Hebrews 10: 17 (ESV)

Then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

Jeremiah 31: 34 (ESV)

And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 31: 34 (ESV)

*For I will forgive their
iniquity, and I will
remember their sin no
more.*

1 Corinthians 7: 12 (ESV)

To the rest I say (I, not the Lord) that if any brother has a wife who is an unbeliever, and she consents to live with him, he should not divorce her.

1 Corinthians 7: 13 (ESV)

If any woman has a husband who is an unbeliever, and he consents to live with her, she should not divorce him.

Question?

Why is it challenging for a
Christian to be married to a
non-Christian?

1 Corinthians 7: 14 (ESV)

For the unbelieving husband is made holy because of his wife, and the unbelieving wife is made holy because of her husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

Question?

What is Paul saying here?

1 Corinthians 7: 14 (NASB)

For the unbelieving husband is sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified through her believing husband; for otherwise your children are unclean, but now they are holy.

Question?

Paul is saying that if a family has a Christian husband or wife then the entire family will benefit from the blessings of them following Christ.

1 Corinthians 7: 15 (ESV)

But if the unbelieving partner separates, let it be so. In such cases the brother or sister is not enslaved. God has called you to peace.

Question?

What is Paul saying here?

If the non-Christian spouse
can't support the believing
spouse's faith in Christ,
then let them leave.

1 Corinthians 7: 16 (ESV)

*For how do you know,
wife, whether you will save
your husband? Or how do
you know, husband,
whether you will save your
wife?*

Question?

What is Paul telling us with
this question?

1 Corinthians 7: 17 (ESV)

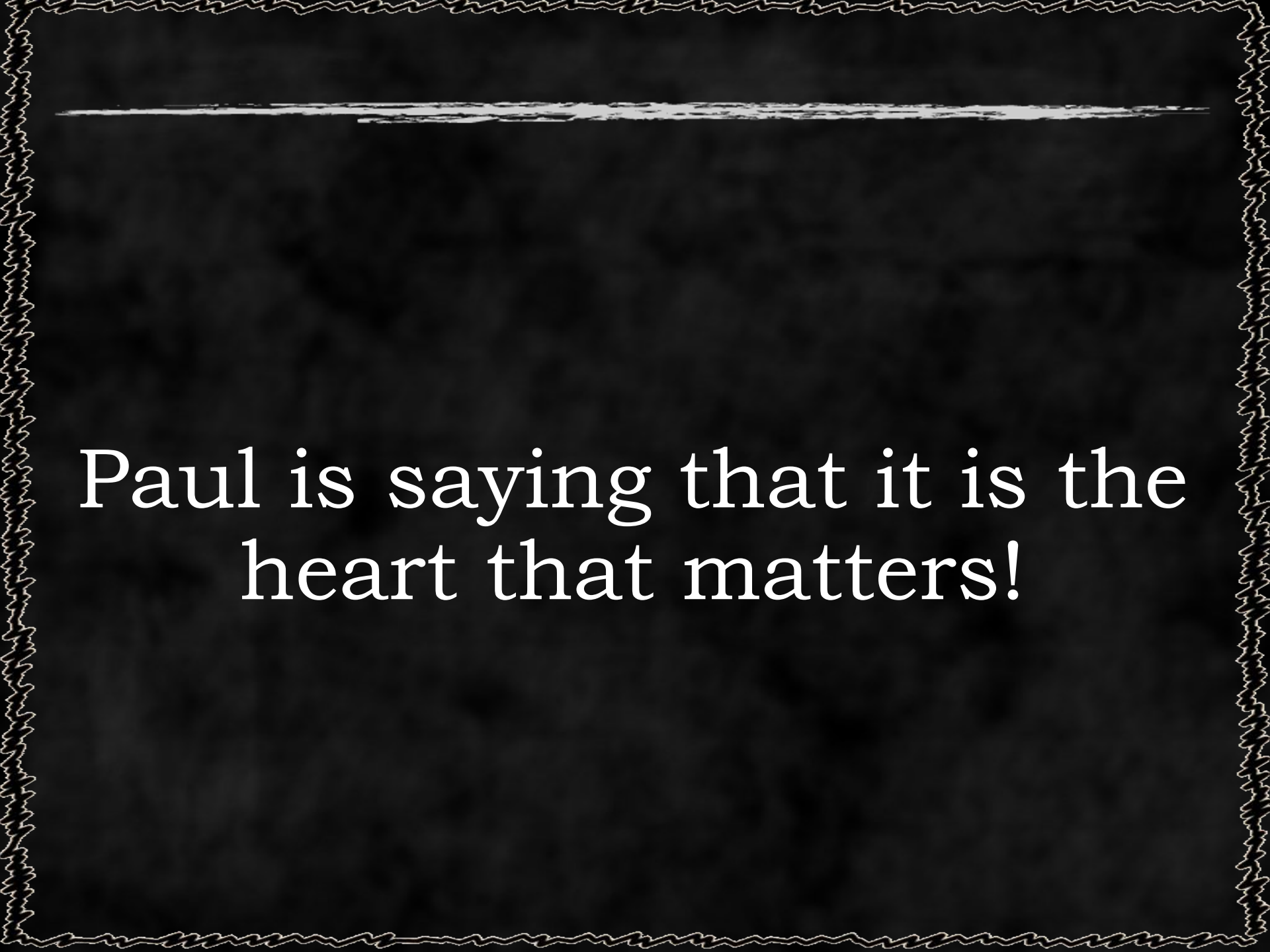
Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches.

1 Corinthians 7: 18 (ESV)

Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision.

1 Corinthians 7: 19-20 (ESV)

*For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, **but keeping the commandments of God.** Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called.*



Paul is saying that it is the
heart that matters!

1 Corinthians 7: 21 (ESV)

Were you a bondservant when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.)

1 Corinthians 7: 22 (ESV)

For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ.

1 Corinthians 7: 23-24 (ESV)

You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men. So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.



Paul is telling us that God
uses us where we are at!

1 Corinthians 7: 25 (ESV)

Now concerning the betrothed (virgins), I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy.

1 Corinthians 7: 26-27 (ESV)

I think that in view of the present distress it is good for a person to remain as he is. Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free. Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife.

Question?

What distress is Paul
talking about?

Question?

The word "distress"
(ἀνάγκη anagkēn) denotes
calamity, persecution or
trial.

Question?

Has God called everyone to
be married?

Question?

So what is Paul saying
here?

In distressing times, such as when facing severe persecution, single life has some advantages. For example: you can be more flexible; you can adapt easier to changes; you can pick up and move if needed.

1 Corinthians 7: 28 (ESV)

But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed (virgin) woman marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that.

1 Corinthians 7: 29 (ESV)

*This is what I mean,
brothers: **the appointed
time has grown very
short.** From now on, let
those who have wives live
as though they had none,*

Question?

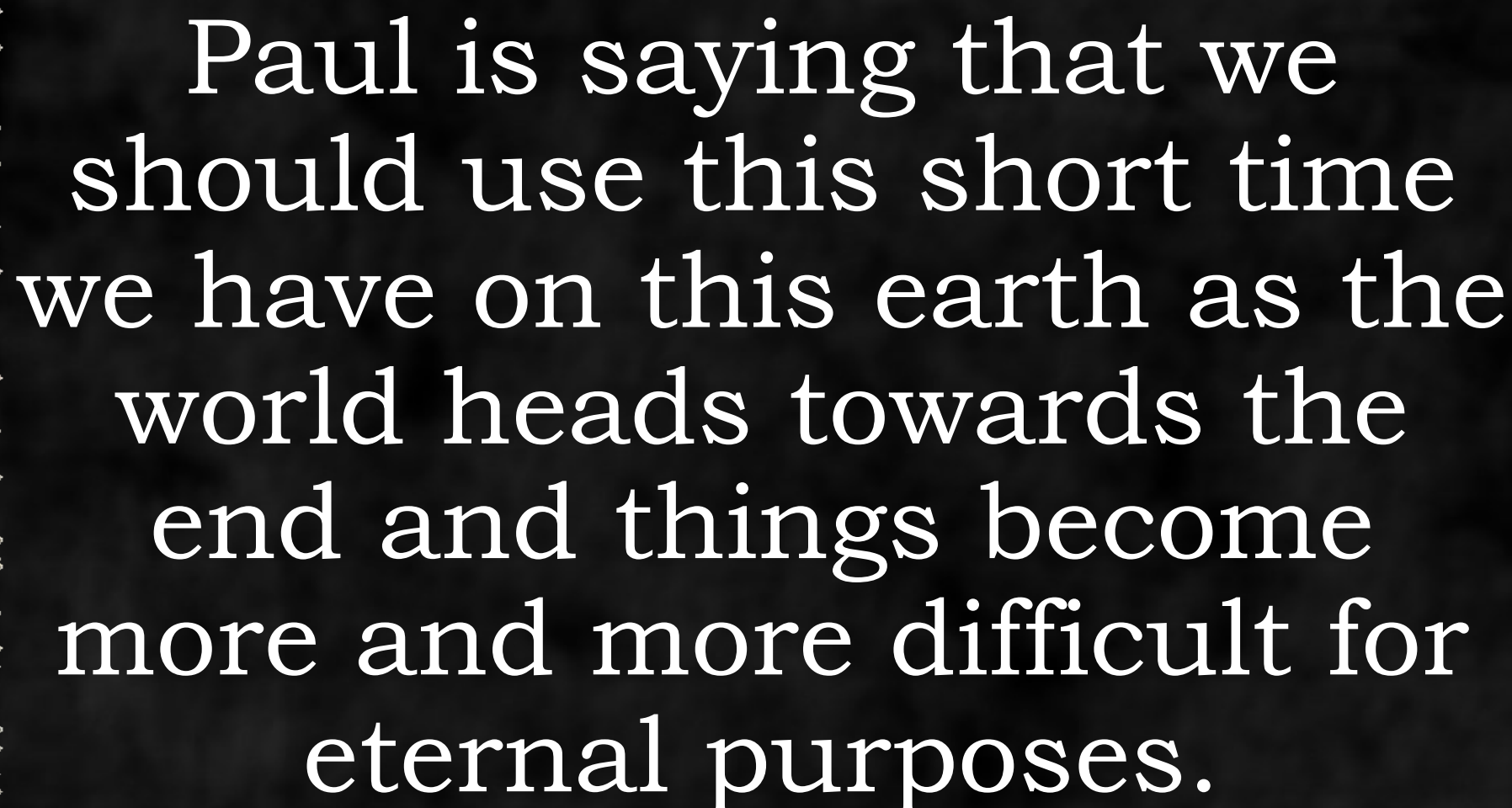
What was happening to the Church when Paul was writing this letter?

1 Corinthians 7: 30 (ESV)

and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods,

1 Corinthians 7: 31 (ESV)

and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.



Paul is saying that we should use this short time we have on this earth as the world heads towards the end and things become more and more difficult for eternal purposes.

1 Corinthians 7: 32 (ESV)

I want you to be free from anxieties. *The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord.*

1 Corinthians 7: 33 (ESV)

*But the married man is
anxious about worldly
things, how to please his
wife,*

1 Corinthians 7: 34 (ESV)

and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed (virgin) woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit.

1 Corinthians 7: 34 (ESV)

*But the married woman is
anxious about worldly
things, how to please her
husband.*

Question?

What point is Paul making
here?



Please turn to:
Luke 10: 38-41

Luke 10: 38-41 (ESV)

Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house.

Luke 10: 38-41 (ESV)

*And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. **But Martha was distracted with much serving.***

Luke 10: 38-41 (ESV)

And she went up to him and said, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.”

Luke 10: 38-41 (ESV)

*But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are **anxious** and **troubled** **about many things**”*

Question?

What happens when we are
anxious over worldly
things?

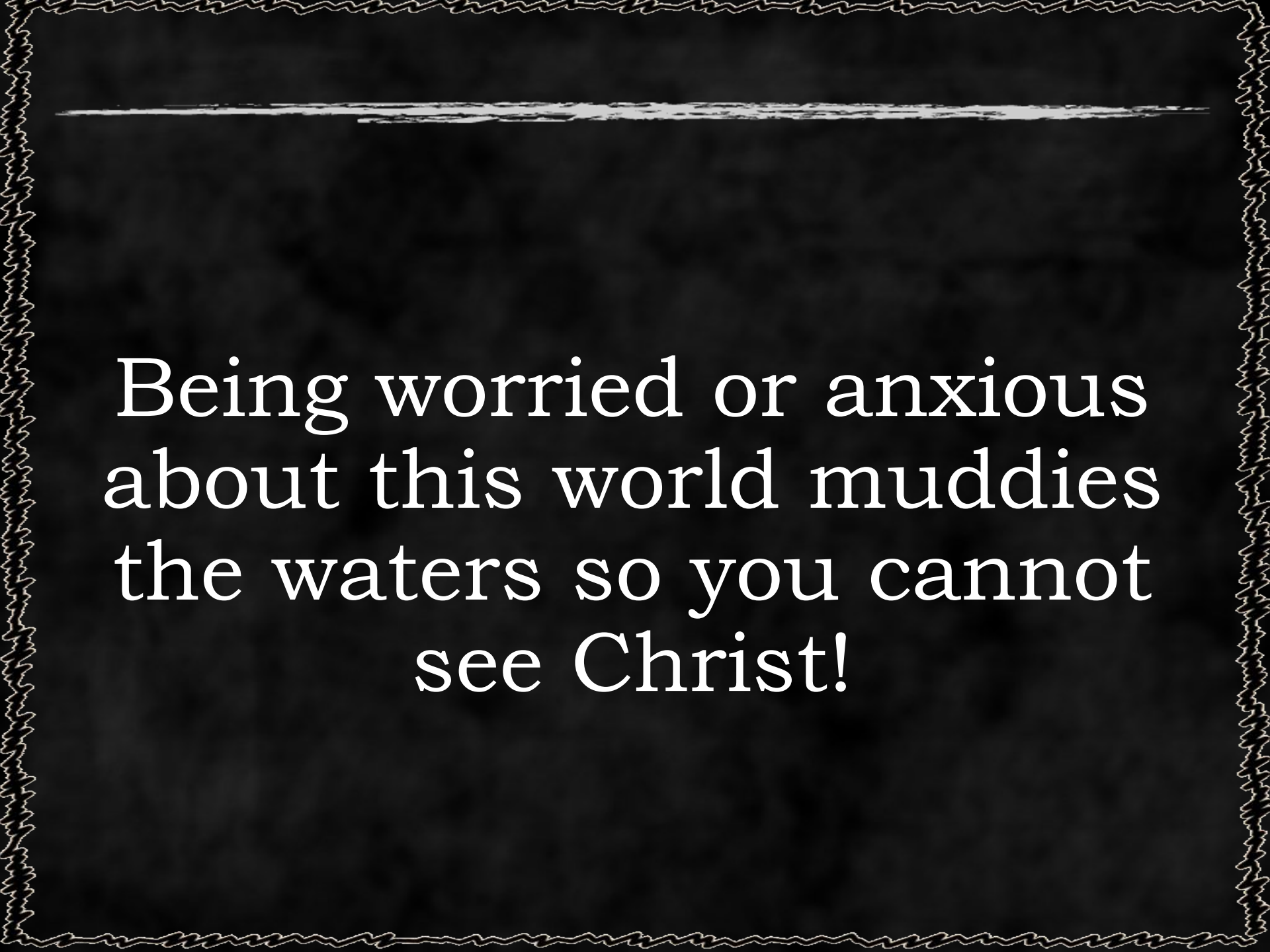
Luke 10: 38-41 (ESV)

But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things

troubled

From Greek root word
turbe:

To make murky or muddy.
To disturb or trouble the
water so that you cannot
see.



Being worried or anxious
about this world muddies
the waters so you cannot
see Christ!



Please turn to:
Matthew 6: 19-21

Matthew 6: 19-21 (ESV)

*“Do not lay up for yourselves
treasures on earth,
where moth and rust
destroy and where
thieves break in and steal,*

Matthew 6: 19-21 (ESV)

*but lay up for yourselves
treasures in heaven, where
neither moth nor rust
destroys and where thieves
do not break in and
steal. For where your
treasure is, there your heart
will be also.*

Question?

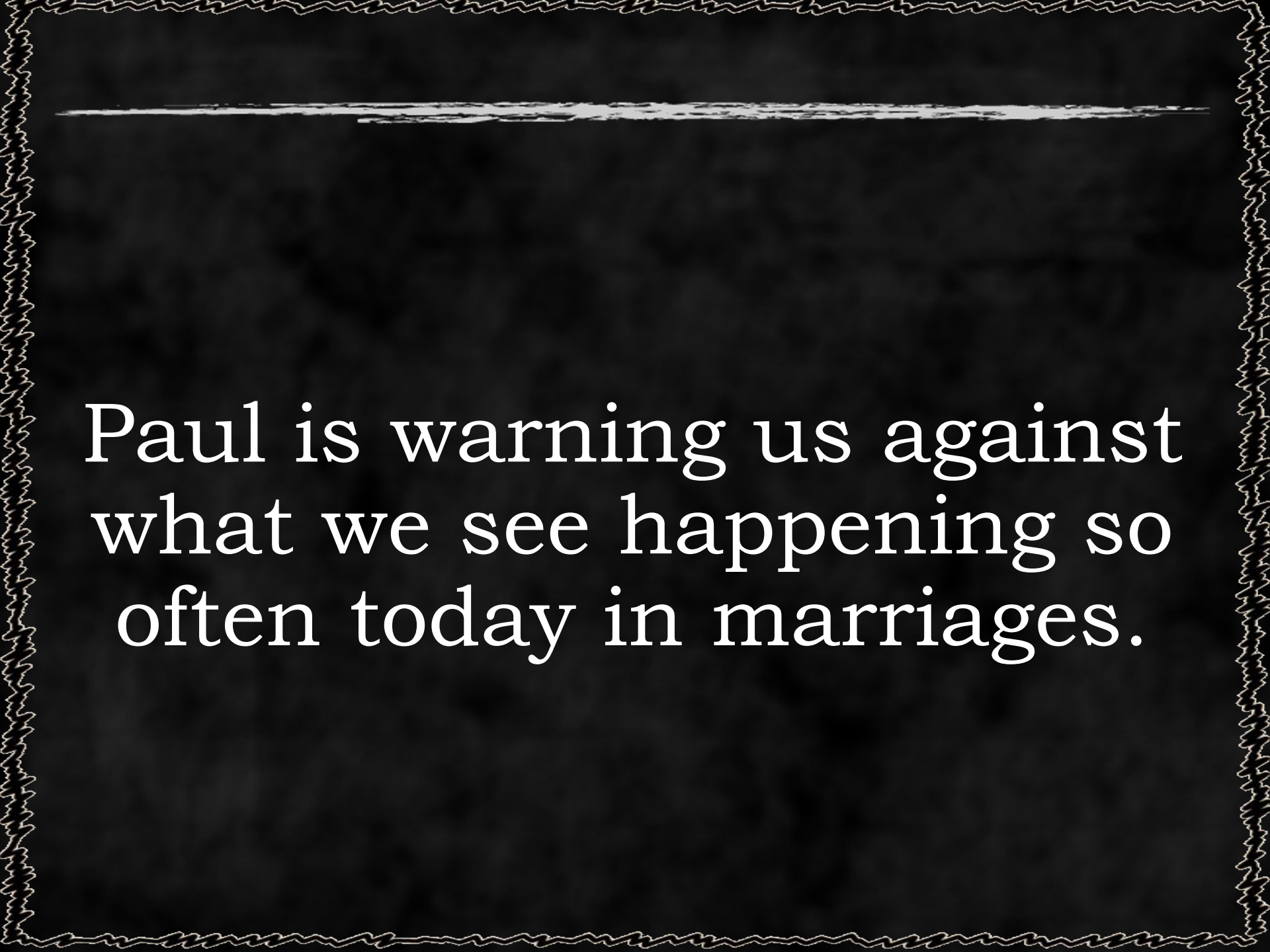
Who should be at the center
of a marriage?

1 Corinthians 7: 35 (ESV)

I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

Question?

Who should be at the center
of a marriage?



Paul is warning us against
what we see happening so
often today in marriages.

A Christian couple will get married, have children and get so engrossed in the things of married life and the activities of their children that they resign from serving in the Church.

Then, because Jesus is no longer the center piece of the marriage, the marriage begins to crumble.

1 Corinthians 7: 36 (ESV)

*If anyone thinks that he is not behaving properly toward his betrothed, if his passions are strong, and it has to be, let him do as he wishes: let them marry—**it is no sin.***

1 Corinthians 7: 37 (ESV)

*But whoever is firmly established in his heart, being under no necessity **but having his desire under control**, and has determined this in his heart, to keep her as his betrothed, he will do well.*

1 Corinthians 7: 38 (ESV)

So then he who marries his betrothed does well, and he who refrains from marriage will do even better.

1 Corinthians 7: 39 (ESV)

*A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, **only in the Lord.***

Question?

What do you think Paul is
meaning with the words
“only in the Lord” ?

1 Corinthians 7: 39 (NLT)

*A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. If her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, **but only if he loves the Lord.***

1 Corinthians 7: 40 (ESV)

*Yet in my judgment she is
happier if she remains as
she is. And I think that I too
have the Spirit of God.*