

ORDER OF SERVICE

WELCOME

SONG: Only a Holy God

BAPTISM

CONFESSION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
We have sinned against you
And against our neighbour,
In thought and word and deed,
In the evil we have done
And in the good we have not done,
Through negligence, through weakness,
Through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
Who died for us,
Forgive us all that is past;
And grant that we may serve you
In newness of life
To the glory of your name. Amen.
Common Worship, © The Archbishops' Council of
the Church of England, 2000-2006

NOTICES (Children go to Sunday School and Crèche)

SONG: All People that on Earth Do Dwell

SONG: From Everlasting

READING: 1 Corinthians 7:24-40 (pg. 956)

SERMON

PRAYERS

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen

SONG: May the Peoples Praise You

BLESSING

NOTICES

Connect with us

If you're new at Grace Church or have been coming for a while, we'd love to connect. Sign up to our Newsletter or WhatsApp Group by scanning the QR code or emailing info@greenwich.church.



Grace Group Survey

Grace Groups (our small group Bible studies) will resume mid-September. **Please could you fill out this short survey** about your availabilities and preferences to help us plan for the coming year? Groups will resume from September 23rd!



Theatre Move & 10-year Anniversary

We will be moving our Greenwich Sunday Service to **Greenwich Theatre** from **14th September**.

We'll also be celebrating **10 years** of Grace Church on **September 28th**!

Weekend Away

Save the date for our next Weekend Away – October 10th to 12th. Sign-ups open tomorrow!

Giving

Grace Church is fully funded by the donations of its members. See www.greenwich.church/give or set up a bank transfer (40-52-40/00027789) or to give tax efficiently contact treasurer@greenwich.church.

Next Sunday: Luke 12:1-12



Welcome!

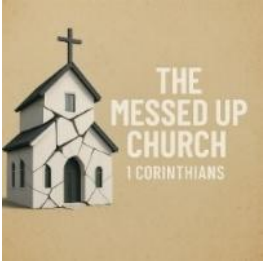
Sunday 31st August 2025

“God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.”

Acts 10:34-35 (ESV)



1 Corinthians 7:24-40



²⁴ So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.

²⁵ Now concerning the betrothed, I have no command from the Lord, but I give my judgement as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. ²⁶ I think that in view of the present distress it is good for a person to remain as he is. ²⁷ Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be free.

Are you free from a wife? Do not seek a wife. ²⁸ But if you do marry, you have not sinned, and if a betrothed woman marries, she has not sinned. Yet those who marry will have worldly troubles, and I would spare you that.

²⁹ 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, ³⁰ 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, ³¹ 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.

³² I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. ³³ But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, ³⁴ and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. ³⁵ 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.

³⁶ If anyone thinks that he is not behaving properly towards his betrothed, if his passions are strong, and it has to be (*or, "if she is getting beyond the usual age for marriage, and he feels he should marry"* - CSB), let him do as he wishes: let them marry—it is no sin. ³⁷ 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. ³⁸ So then he who marries his betrothed does well, and he who refrains from marriage will do even better.

³⁹ 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. ⁴⁰ Yet in my judgement she is happier if she remains as she is. And I think that I too have the Spirit of God.

When might it be better not to marry?

Corinthians: Always?



7:1

Paul's advice:

Now is a good time to remain as you are.

v25-28

1. Paul's reason: The present distress.



- Things of this world are passing away. v29-31
- Getting married brings anxieties. v32-35

2. Paul's specific application:

If you want, you could delay the wedding.



v36-40

- Lining up with God's word is most significant.

A Christian's decision checklist:

- Is it in line with God's word?
- Then...
 - Is it sensible?
 - Do we want to do it?

So, line up with God's word.

Then, be free to make other decisions.

DISCUSSION STARTER:

What decisions do we sometimes think are most significant?

How could this passage change how we make decisions?