



*“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 “
(1 Corinthians 7:35).*

God does not want you to place anything above Him. He must come first in your life. 1 Corinthians 7:17 instructs you to lead the life that the Lord has assigned you, and to which God has called you. Your assignment is to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord. However, we both know -life is often at odds with this.

The entire chapter of 1 Corinthians 7 is devoted to the subject of relationships (particularly between a man and wife). However, the common thread throughout the chapter concerns each one and our call for undivided devotion to the Lord.

Paul makes another similar statement concerning our devotion to the Lord, just a few verses from today's verse, "I would like you to be free from concern" (1 Corinthians 7:32). Concern means to relate to, be connected with, to be of interest or importance to.

What are you connected to? What holds your interest or carries great importance to you? I am certain your deepest desire is to experience God as closely as you can. You want God to be as real as He can be to you. In order for this to happen, you must avoid having undivided devotion to Him.

Paul constantly set the example of how Jesus Christ can transform a heart and mind giving one a supernatural perspective that was undivided. The word used here for "undivided" refers to not being distracted. Undivided devotion means we are to have no loyalties elsewhere. There is no doubt Paul lived free from concern. Can you say the same thing?

Paul continually applied this devotion to his own relationship with the Lord. Paul reminds you that you are free to do what you choose, with no restrictions placed on you as a Christian, yet always being careful to not fall prey to undivided devotion. So ask yourself, is your devotion to Him undivided?

You have to be honest with yourself. Are you putting your personal relationship with God first, or are you allowing other aspects of life to come before Him?

If you decide to make the daily choice of putting God first in your life, everything else will naturally fall into place in the right order.

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