



# SERMON NOTES

Sunday, February 19, 2023 | Pastor Scott Boerckel

## **Living the Life that God Has Assigned**

1 Corinthians 7:17-24

1. One calling is more important than any other.  
(1 Corinthians 7:17, 20, 24)
2. Racial or national identity does not impact following the real call. (1 Corinthians 7:18-20)



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3. Economic or social status is not as important as God's calling.  
(1 Corinthians 7:21-24)

## Table Talk

- 1) Identify the three times in this section where we are told to remain in the same condition as when we were called. What is this "calling"? How might this apply regarding marriage? What matters vie for greater value in our thinking than our calling?
- 2) What is the first area to which Paul applies this principle? (vv. 18-20) How does your racial or national orientation impact your sense of self, your sense of belonging? Are there ways that this impacts us without our thinking about it? How can we both value our national or racial identity and also not allow that to impact the importance of our calling from God? In our present time, there is a lot of conversation about the past wrongs done to and by particular national or racial groups. How might verses 18-20 contribute profitably to that conversation?
- 3) What is the second area to which Paul applies this principle of remaining in the same condition as when we were called? (vv. 21-24) In what ways does this text imply that the abolition of slavery is preferred? Imagine that you are a first century slave who is a believer. How would you react to Paul's teaching here? Why might they be hard to accept? Why are they hard to accept today? How can a person be freed from concern about the injustices of his/her present condition?