



**REAL**

REAL

REAL

RELATIONSHIPS

RELATIONSHIPS

**RELATIONSHIPS**



# 1 Peter 4:8-10

Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS

# Being intentional in relationships

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Being intentional in relationships

- “Above all, keep **fervent** in your love for one another...”

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Being intentional in relationships

- “Above all, keep **fervent** in your love for one another...”
  - “to stretch out all you have”

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Being intentional in relationships

- “Above all, keep **fervent** in your love for one another...”
  - “to stretch out all you have”
- Greek - image “**to boil over**”



REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS

# Being intentional in relationships

- “Above all, keep **fervent** in your love for one another...”
  - “to stretch out all you have”
- Greek - image “**to boil over**”
- Love takes **work**.

REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS

# Being intentional in relationships

- “Above all, keep **fervent** in your love for one another...”
  - “to stretch out all you have”
- Greek - image “**to boil over**”
- Love takes **work**.
- God’s love is **supernatural**.

REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS



# Being intentional in relationships

- “Above all, keep **fervent** in your love for one another...”
  - “to stretch out all you have”
- Greek - image “**to boil over**”
- Love takes **work**.
- God’s love is **supernatural**.
- “Be **hospitable** to one another without complaint.”

REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS

# Being intentional in relationships

- “Above all, keep **fervent** in your love for one another...”
  - “to stretch out all you have”
- Greek - image “**to boil over**”
- Love takes **work**.
- God’s love is **supernatural**.
- “Be **hospitable** to one another without complaint.”
  - “showing care for strangers”

REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS

A couple holding hands in a field. The background features a dotted map of Texas. The text is overlaid on the image.

To have relationships that you love,  
You must **choose to love**  
the relationships that you have.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

**Use your gifts to serve each other**

**REAL ATIONSHIPS**

# Use your gifts to serve each other

- “As each one has received a **special gift**, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Use your gifts to serve each other

- “As each one has received a **special gift**, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”
  - **Charis** [Greek] = a gift of Grace

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Use your gifts to serve each other

- “As each one has received a **special gift**, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”
  - **Charis** [Greek] = a gift of Grace
- The **purpose** of our gifts is to **serve** each other.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Use your gifts to serve each other

- “As each one has received a **special gift**, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”
  - **Charis** [Greek] = a gift of Grace
- The **purpose** of our gifts is to **serve** each other.
- One of the greatest **joys** in relationships is being able to serve others.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**



# Use your gifts to serve each other

- “As each one has received a **special gift**, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”
  - **Charis** [Greek] = a gift of Grace
- The **purpose** of our gifts is to **serve** each other.
- One of the greatest **joys** in relationships is being able to serve others.
- It's not humility to refuse someone's gift, **it's pride.**

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

The image features a couple holding hands in a field, with a stylized map of Texas in the background. The map is composed of a grid of dots, with the state of Texas highlighted in a yellowish-gold color. The background is a soft, hazy landscape with a light sky and a field. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, with a focus on the theme of relationships and singleness.

# The Gift of Singleness

**REAL** **ATIONSHIPS**

# 1 Corinthians 7:7-8

Yet I wish that all men were even as I myself am [single]. However, each man has his own gift from God, one in this manner, and another in that. 8 But I say to the unmarried and to widows that it is good for them if they remain even as I.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# 1 Corinthians 7:7-8

Yet I wish that all men were even as I myself am [single]. However, each man has his own gift from God, one in this manner, and another in that. 8 But I say to the unmarried and to widows that it is good for them if they remain even as I.

- Marriage is a **gift**...singleness is a **gift**...being widowed is a **gift**.

REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS

# Matthew 19:12

Some are born as eunuchs, some have been made eunuchs by others, and **some choose not to marry** for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. Let anyone accept this who can."

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**



# Lies about the gift of singleness

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Lie # 1 - Singleness is second-class

REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS

# Lie # 1 - Singleness is second-class

- Singleness is a **theo-centric** "Gift of Grace"

REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS



# Lie # 1 - Singleness is second-class

- Singleness is a **theo-centric** "Gift of Grace"
- God is **trusting you** with this special gift.

REAL **ATI**ONSHIPS

# Lie # 1 - Singleness is second-class

- Singleness is a **theo-centric** "Gift of Grace"
- God is **trusting you** with this special gift.
- You aren't broken... **you're gifted.**

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

**Lie #2 - The most important thing in life  
is finding true love**

**REAL ATIONSHIPS**

# Lie #2 - The most important thing in life is finding true love

- Our focus should be on who we are **called to be**, not who we are **called to be with**.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Lie #2 - The most important thing in life is finding true love

- Our focus should be on who we are **called to be**, not who we are **called to be with**.
- Being fervent in love for the people God has already given us helps **shape us** into the people God designed us to be.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Lie #2 - The most important thing in life is finding true love

- Our focus should be on who we are **called to be**, not who we are **called to be with**.
- Being fervent in love for the people God has already given us helps **shape us** into the people God designed us to be.
- "Delight yourself in the LORD; and He will give you the desires of your heart" - **Psalm 37:4**

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Lie #3 - I am not whole without someone in my life

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Lie #3 - I am not whole without someone in my life

- A **relationship status change** isn't the solution to loneliness.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**



# Lie #3 - I am not whole without someone in my life

- A **relationship status change** isn't the solution to loneliness.
- If you aren't whole, then that's where your **focus** needs to be.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

# Luci Swindoll

Wherever the single person is, God is doing something. You can't alter it; you can't add something to it; you can't take something from it. God does His work so He can grow that person to be like Himself. Then **when others see God in that person**, His purpose has been fulfilled.

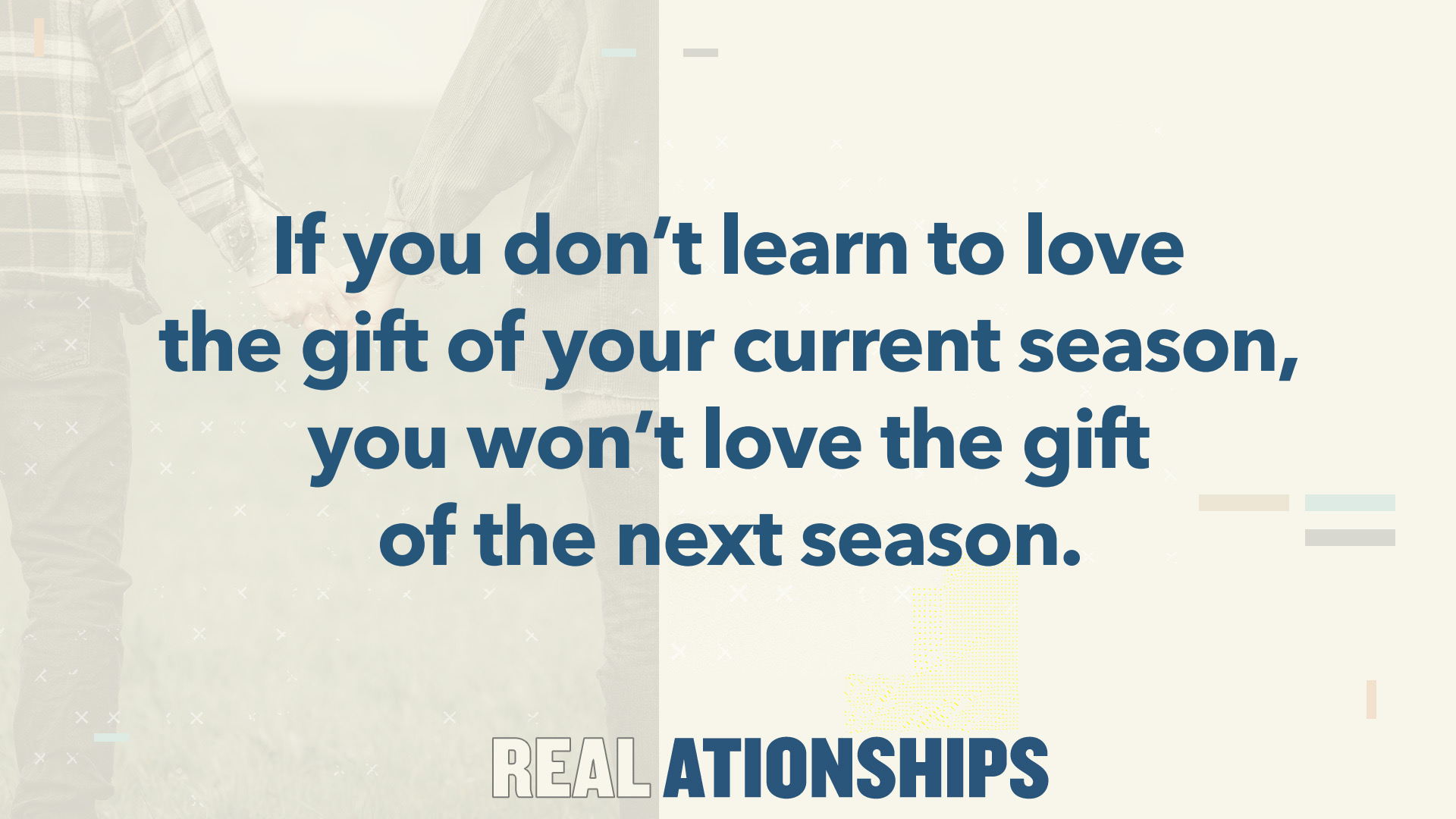
REAL **ATIONSHIPS**



**Singleness is a gift. Spend it well.**

**REAL ATIONSHIPS**



A couple is shown from the waist down, holding hands in a grassy field. The person on the left wears a plaid shirt and jeans, while the person on the right wears a striped shirt and dark pants. The background is a soft-focus landscape. A large, semi-transparent yellow star graphic is positioned in the lower right quadrant. The text is overlaid in the center in a bold, dark blue font. There are decorative horizontal bars in the top and bottom right corners and small white 'x' marks scattered across the image.

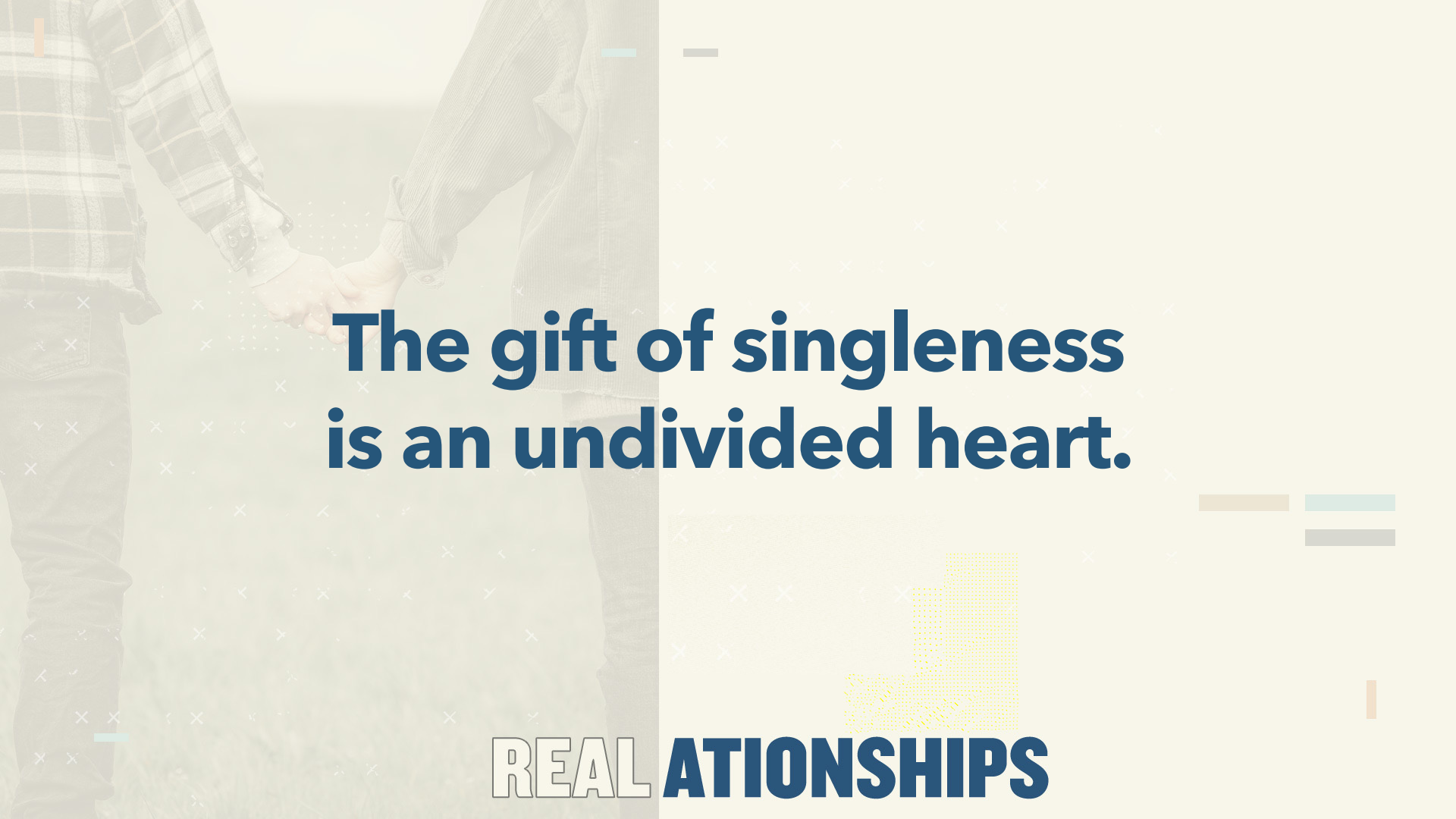
**If you don't learn to love  
the gift of your current season,  
you won't love the gift  
of the next season.**

**REAL ATIONSHIPS**

# 1 Corinthians 7:32-34

I want you to be free from concern. One who is unmarried is concerned about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, and his interests are divided.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**

A couple is shown from the waist down, holding hands in a grassy field. The person on the left wears a plaid shirt and jeans, while the person on the right wears a striped shirt and dark pants. The background is a soft-focus landscape. A large, dotted heart graphic is positioned in the lower right quadrant. The overall image has a light, airy feel with scattered white 'x' marks and various colored lines (orange, teal, grey) scattered across the frame.

**The gift of singleness  
is an undivided heart.**

**REAL** **ATIONSHIPS**

A couple is shown from the waist down, holding hands in a grassy field. The person on the left wears a plaid shirt and jeans, while the person on the right wears a striped shirt and dark pants. A large, dotted heart graphic is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image. The background is a soft-focus landscape with a vertical line down the center. The overall color palette is muted and naturalistic.

**Why be in a rush to divide  
your undivided heart?**

**REAL ATIONSHIPS**

A couple holding hands in a field. The image is split vertically. The left side shows a man in a plaid shirt and a woman in a grey jacket holding hands. The right side is a light yellow background with a dotted heart graphic and decorative lines. The text is overlaid on the image.

**Your undivided heart can be a gift  
to the Kingdom of God!**

**REAL** **ATI**ONSHIPS



# 1 Peter 4:8-10

Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaint. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

REAL **ATIONSHIPS**



**REAL**

REAL

REAL

RELATIONSHIPS

RELATIONSHIPS

**RELATIONSHIPS**

