



SINGLENES

Life Together

How many shelves do you have in your refrigerator?

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Matthew 19:10-12

The disciples said to him, “If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry.” But he said to them, “Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given. For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it.”

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Jesus lays out three classes of singleness...

- “Out of birth” – born with no desire for marriage or capacity to do so
- “Made eunuchs by men” - divorce, death of spouse
- “Made themselves eunuch” – choice of ministry, staying single for greater ministry opportunities

Why does Jesus mention “able to receive..”?

1 Corinthians 7:6-9

Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another. To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

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- In some cases celibacy will be a lifetime gift to be received and used for God’s glory
- Other times a person can be called to celibacy for a period of time in their life and then be called out to marry or vice versa.
- Both marriage and celibacy are highly prized by God as good!

1 Corinthians 7:32-33

I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, and his interests are divided.

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Singleness as a gift

- Remember the context – Corinth a city full of sexual immorality and the believers had questions.
- Paul gives pastoral advice to new believers to deal with the sexual matters within their cultural context.

Singleness...church needs a realignment

- Singles are not “missing out on life”

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Singleness...church needs a realignment

- Singles are not “missing out on life”
- I am not single because I am too spiritually immature to have a husband or too spiritually mature to need one, but I am single because God is good and this is the best for me – Page Benton Brown

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Singleness...church needs a realignment

- Singles are not “missing out on life”
- Singleness is a gift from the Lord
- Singles can have greater flexibility in ministry than married people
- Jesus knows exactly what single life is all about will lead you in His better ways.

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Thoughts for all singles

- Embrace your stage of life by living it to the Lord

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Thoughts for all singles

- Embrace your stage of life by living it to the Lord
- Ask for feedback on your emotional health

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Life Together

Thoughts for all singles

- Embrace your stage of life by living it to the Lord
- Ask for feedback on your emotional health from mature believers
- Your life is preparing you for eternity

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