

Single and Satisfied

It's Complicated - Part 4

May 15, 2022

Nearly 50% of US adults are unmarried (U.S. Census Bureau)
23% of churchgoers are single (Barna)

Single and never married
Single after divorce
Single parents
Widows and widowers

It's ok to be single.

Marriage doesn't fix our issues. It compounds them and brings them out into the open.

Being single has its **difficulties**.
Being single has its **benefits** too.
For many singles, it's both.

Being single isn't what solely defines a person.

What does God have to say about being single?

God calls some to marriage.
God calls some to be single.

*"⁷But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special **gift** from God, of one kind or another. ⁸So I say to those who aren't married and to widows—it's **better** to stay unmarried, just as I am. ⁹But if they can't control themselves, they should go ahead and marry. It's better to marry than to burn with lust. ... ³⁰Those who weep or who rejoice or who buy things should not be **absorbed** by their weeping or their joy or their possessions. ³¹Those who use the things of the world should not become **attached** to them. For this world as we know it will soon pass away. ³²I want you to be free from the concerns of this life. An unmarried man can spend his time doing the Lord's work and thinking how to please Him. ³³But a married man has to think about his earthly responsibilities and how to please his wife. ³⁴His interests are **divided**. In the same way, a woman who is no longer married or has never been married can be **devoted** to the Lord and holy in **body** and in **spirit**. But a married woman has to think about her earthly responsibilities and how to please her husband. ³⁵I am saying this for your benefit, not to place restrictions on you. **I want you to do whatever will help you serve the Lord best, with as few distractions as possible.**" 1 Corinthians 7:7-9, 30-35 (NLT)*

Eternity is way bigger and more important than being married or single.

The gift of being single is an opportunity to serve God more!

*"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you **everything** you need."*
Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

God loves you and promises to provide for you.

*“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have **life**, and have it to the **full**.”* John 10:10 (NIV)

God uses every season of our lives.

“For everything there is a season, a time for every activity under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1 (NLT)

We must learn to be content in every season and situation.

*“¹¹ ... I have learned how to be content with whatever I have. ¹²I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. ¹³For I can do **everything** through Christ, who gives me strength.”* Philippians 4:11-13 (NLT)

How do I find a spouse?

- **The method doesn't matter as much as the motive.**
- **Are you the person the person you're looking for is looking for?**
- **Surround yourself with Christ-centered relationships.**

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- **Trust God and follow His principles.**

“⁵Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. ⁶Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.” Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

How you can serve those who are single:

- **Pray for them**
- **Encourage them**
- **Ask them how they're doing and listen**
- **Invite them into your world**
- **Love them where they are**

“ ... For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.” 2 Corinthians 4:18 (NLT)

Build your life on something you can never lose ... Jesus.

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