



## IF I'M SO WONDERFUL, WHY AM I STILL SINGLE?

SERIES: A Marriage Tune-up

1 Corinthians 7

Sunday, November 14, 2021

### WHY SHOULD I BE INTERESTED IN THIS TOPIC?

1. God thought it was important enough to be included in the Bible
2. The Bible is full of single adults in all types of situations.
3. Almost 50% of the adult population in the United States is single.
4. Every one of us has been a single adult in the past ... and chances are that we may become single in the future

### THE HISTORICAL AND BIBLICAL SETTING: A Review

#### Three Principles about Intimacy in Marriage (1 Corinthians 7:1-7):

1. Intimacy in marriage is planned for the husband-wife relationship **ONLY**. We said in summary that one *"is not married until your married!"*
2. Intimacy in marriage is an expression of unselfish **AFFECTION**, not selfish desire. The emphasis is not on the privileges of marriage, but rather on the responsibilities of marriage.
3. Intimacy in marriage is not to be **INTERRUPTED** except on very rare occasions. Sex and intimacy are not used as weapons.

### SIGNIFICANT STATEMENTS ABOUT BEING SINGLE

1 Corinthians 7:7 [NASB] *Yet I wish that all men were even as I myself am. However, each man has his own gift from God, one in this manner, and another in that.* <sup>8</sup> *But I say to the unmarried and to widows that it is good for them if they remain even as I.*

1. Singleness is **DESIRED**, but not demanded.

Philippians 4:10 (NIV) *"I rejoice greatly in the Lord that at last you have renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you have been concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it.* <sup>11</sup> *I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have **learned to be content** whatever the circumstances.* <sup>12</sup> *I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have **learned the secret of being content** in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.* <sup>13</sup> *I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."*

1 Corinthians 7:26 (NASB) *I think then that this is good in view of the present distress, that it is good for a man to remain as he is. <sup>27</sup> Are you bound to a wife? Do not seek to be released. Are you released from a wife? Do not seek a wife.*

**2. Singleness allows one to have less DISTRESS from a hostile world. 7:26-27**

1 Corinthians 7:28 *But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you.*

**3. Singleness allows one to have fewer difficulties on a PERSONAL basis. 7:28**

1 Corinthians 7:29 (NASB) *But this I say, brethren, the time has been shortened, so that from now on those who have wives should be as though they had none; <sup>30</sup> and those who weep, as though they did not weep; and those who rejoice, as though they did not rejoice; and those who buy, as though they did not possess; <sup>31</sup> and those who use the world, as though they did not make full use of it; for the form of this world is passing away.*

**4. Singleness allows one fewer DISTRACTIONS from time spent on spiritual matters. 7:29-31**

#### Areas of Possible Distraction from Ministry:

1. MARRIAGE by design proscribes certain actions.
2. EMOTIONS become less of a distraction when we are only dealing with ourselves.
3. POSSESSIONS can be a distraction.
4. The pursuit of PLEASURE can cripple believers.

1 Corinthians 7:32 (NASB) *But 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; <sup>33</sup> but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, <sup>34</sup> and his interests are divided. The woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she may please her husband. <sup>35</sup> This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord.*

**5. Singleness allows one to enjoy a greater CONCENTRATION on one's personal intimacy with God. 7:32-35**

Mark 12:30 (NIV) *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."*

#### **THREE CONCLUDING WORDS**

REJOICE

REVERSE

Matthew 6:33 (NASB) *"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."*

## RELAX

1 John 5:3 (ESV) *For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not **burdensome**.*

Matthew 11:28 (MSG) *"Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to Me. Get away with Me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. <sup>29</sup> Walk with Me and work with Me - watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. <sup>30</sup> Keep company with Me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."*