

Love, Dates, & Heartbreaks
Part 2 – “Single to the Max”
February 10 & 13, 2022

Single
Dating
Married

1 Corinthians 7:7

I wish that all of you were as I am. But each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.

- Singleness is a gift.

1 Corinthians 7:27-28

Are you unmarried? Do not look for a wife. But if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. But those who marry will face many troubles in this life, and I want to spare you of this.

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

What I mean, brothers and sisters, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they do not; those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

Revelation 19:7-9

Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear... Then the angel said to me, “Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!”

- Marriage is a good thing, not the ultimate thing.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord’s affairs—how he can please the Lord. But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife— and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord’s affairs: Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world—how she can please her husband. I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

- The goal of singleness is undivided devotion.

Matthew 19:12

For there are eunuchs who were born that way, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others--and there are those who choose to live like eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. The one who can accept this should accept it.

Groups

1. What are/were the best parts of being single for you? What are/were the worst parts?
2. In what ways is being single a gift from God? Do you think that the church appropriately celebrates and elevates this gift? Why or why not?
3. What are some ways that married couples can give singles a stronger sense of belonging in the church?
4. What do Jesus, John the Baptist and Paul the Apostle all have in common? Do you think it is a coincidence that they accomplished so much? Do you agree with Paul that someone who is single is less distracted from his or her service to God than if they were married (1 Corinthians 7:32-35)?
5. How might embracing the gift of singleness make someone better at marriage in the future?
6. If a married person missed the goal when they were single, what's a step they can take now?