



Singleness As An Expression of Family

What does God's Word say
to the Church today about
being single?

Singleness is a gift from God

- 1 Corinthians 7:7
- 'But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. But God gives to some the gift of marriage, and to others the gift of singleness'

Singleness has advantages

- Spared the 'troubles' of marriage
- Devote yourselves to God's work
 - 1 Corinthians 7:32-34

Singleness is hard

- Adam and Eve
- Loneliness and sexual fantasy ... two battles closely related
- 1 Corinthians 6:18

Singleness is not permanent

- Revelation 7:17; 19:7
- “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!”

To those who are single ...

- Thank God for the gift of singleness
 - Do all you can to be godly
- Keep your eyes fixed on the future

To those who are married ...

- Don't think of singleness as second best
- Remember that your family is the whole church
 - Keep your eyes fixed on the future

A Biblical principle relevant to singlehood

- Matthew 10:34-39
- Sometimes, if you are faithful to yourself and to your mission in life as a Christian, you will pay a price

Aloneness

- Means not only separate, apart, or isolated from others
- Also means (you are) unique and unequalled!
 - A state of being
 - Can be lived out creatively
- One can be well-married to oneself!

Celebrate Aloneness

- We can celebrate that we are alone
 - We are free!
 - We are children of God!
 - Romans 12:2
- Singleness: (can be) a righteous way to live!

Psalm 91:1-2; 14-16

- “Those who live in the shelter of the Most High will find rest in the shadow of the Almighty. He alone is my refuge, my place of safety; he is my God, and I trust him.
- I will rescue those who love me. I will protect those who trust in my name. ... I will reward them with a long life and give them my salvation.”

