



SINGLE AND SATISFIED

Matthew 19:1-12

- *“Jesus’ disciples then said to him, “If this is the case, it is better not to marry!” “Not everyone can accept this statement,” Jesus said. “Only those whom God helps. Some are born as eunuchs, some have been made eunuchs by others, and some choose not to marry for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. Let anyone accept this who can.”* (Matthew 19:10-12)
- **Most non-married people are planning to be married in the future, but sometimes it’s better not to be married.**
- **When people are dissatisfied with their life circumstances they are typically thinking continually about what they don’t have.**
- *“Cultural tradition and expectations, the desire to possess another, and the idea of being a princess or prince for a day are at the root of most people's desire to marry.” - Psychology Today*
- **Half of Americans over age 18 are married (which is down from 72% in 1960), and that the median age for first marriage rose to an all-time high in 2018 of 30 for men and 28 for women. [Pew Research]**
- **14% of never-married adults say they don’t plan to marry at all, and another 27% aren’t sure whether marriage is for them; [Pew Research]**
- **The Bible teaches us that marriage can be a gift and blessing, but it also teaches us that singleness can be a gift and blessing.**
- Paul - *“God gives the gift of the single life to some, the gift of the married life to others.”* (1 Corinthians 7:7 Msg)
- Paul - *“The person who marries his fiancée does well, and the person who doesn’t marry does even better.”* (1 Corinthians 7:38 Msg)
- *“Jesus places the single life next to the married life in co-equal dignity. Both are gifts, both have God as their source behind and through all life experiences and so both are protected and celebrated by Jesus.” - Dale Bruner*
- ***How can someone thrive in a season of Singleness?***

Thriving In A Season Of Singleness Requires:

UNDERSTANDING ONLY A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS CAN FULLY SATISFY US

- Jesus - *“Anyone who drinks this water will soon become thirsty again. But those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life.”* (John 4:13-14)
- Jesus - *“I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst.”* (John 6:35)
- **Bread feeds our bodies and people feed our need for relationships, but only Jesus feeds our souls.**
- *“Life is far, far better when Jesus is at the center, and far, far worse when anyone else is.”* - Sam Allberry
- Jesus - *“Some are born as eunuchs, some have been made eunuchs by others, and some choose not to marry for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. Let anyone accept this who can.”* (Matthew 19:12)
- *“In using the term Eunuch, Jesus meant more than someone simply not marrying but rather one’s setting aside the right of marriage and procreation...Jesus is suggesting that there are some who will willingly give up the blessings of both marriage and offspring for the sake of the Kingdom of God.”* - Barry Danylak
- **TIP: BUILD YOUR FIRST INTIMACY WITH THE LORD**

Thriving In A Season Of Singleness Requires:

CHOOSING TO LIVE AND ACT WISELY

- Paul - *“You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is good for you. You say, “I am allowed to do anything”—but not everything is beneficial.”* (1 Corinthians 10:23 NIV)
- **We can’t do the same thing the world is doing and somehow, because we are Christians, think we’ll get a different result.**
- Paul - *“Those who live only to satisfy their own sinful nature will harvest decay and death from that sinful nature. But those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.”* (Galatians 6:8)
- **We can’t shorten a season of life, but we can definitely extend a season.**

Thriving In A Season Of Singleness Requires:

DEVELOPING THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

- **Marriage isn’t the “End Game”;** it’s simply a continuation for many people of the abundant life that the Lord wants them to have.
- **Being a Christian means your entire perspective and approach to life is different.**
- Paul - *“An unmarried man can spend his time doing the Lord’s work and thinking how to please him. But a married man has to think about his earthly responsibilities and how to please his wife. His 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.”* (1 Corinthians 7:32-34)
- **Living a satisfied single life requires being devoted to the Lord.**
- **Singleness is not a season of waiting - it is a season of growing and serving.**

- You should have a dream for THIS SEASON that you won't be able to fulfill when you eventually get married.

Thriving In A Season Of Singleness Requires:

CHOOSING TO STAY CONNECTED WITH GODLY INDIVIDUALS

- Being alone is a choice when you are a member of the family of God.
- The early Church functioned like a Mediterranean family, not an American family, where the closest bonds were between siblings, and correspondingly, the most treacherous acts of disloyalty was betrayal of one's siblings.
- Paul - *"For some members of Chloe's household have told me about your quarrels, my dear brothers and sisters."* (1 Corinthians 1:11)
- Paul - *"Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you."* (1 Corinthians 1:26)
- Paul - *"When I first came to you, dear brothers and sisters, I didn't use lofty words and impressive wisdom to tell you God's secret plan."* (1 Corinthians 2:1)
- Paul - *"Dear brothers and sisters, when I was with you I couldn't talk to you as I would to spiritual people. I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in Christ."* (1 Corinthians 3:1)
- **We do not find an unchurched Christian in the New Testament**
- Paul - *"So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family."* (Ephesians 2:19)
- **When we get a new Father we also get a new set of brothers and sisters.**
- **Have fun with the godly people that the Lord has put in your life!**

Thriving In A Season Of Singleness Requires:

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

- Paul - *"An unmarried man can spend his time doing the Lord's work and thinking how to please Him."* (1 Corinthians 7:32)
- **There are lots of activities that Singles can do to grow in lots of ways.**
- **What are some ways that "single living" is better than "married living"?**
- **A single man named Paul wrote most of what the Bible teaches us about singleness (1 Corinthians 7:7).**
- Paul - *"I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."* (Philippians 4:13)
- Paul - *"This same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from His glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 4:19)
- **The best person we can ever go through life with is JESUS, and when we have Him we have enough.**