

## A QUICK START FOR SINGLE LIFE

### Topical

**Take Home Truth:** The single life is a good life, a complete life, and an optional life.

#### ● QUESTION #1: IS THE SINGLE LIFE A GOOD THING IN GOD’S EYES?

- Both Jesus and the apostle Paul were single and yet all believers are commanded to imitate their lives.

(See 1 Corinthians 11:1.)

- 1 Corinthians 7 tells us that singleness is good and God’s best for some believers.

See 1 Corinthians 7:7-9; 32-33; 27-28; 29-31.

Kingdom of God = the time of God’s rule

“The kingdom of God is already but not yet.” (Gordon Fee)

Believers’ attitudes about life need to reflect the coming Kingdom.

#### ● QUESTION #2: CAN A SINGLE CHRISTIAN BE COMPLETE WITHOUT A SPOUSE?

“... I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”  
John 10:10 (English Standard Version)

#### Three Necessities of a Complete Life

- A vital love relationship with God

(See Matthew 22:27.)

*And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.*

1 John 4:16 (New International Version)

- Interdependent relationships with God’s people

*Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God’s people and members of God’s household, . . . Ephesians 2:19 (NIV)*

See “one another” passages: Ephesians 4:2, 32; Colossians 3:13; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; etc.)

- A high purpose

*. . . for the sake of his body, that is, the church,<sup>25</sup> . . . I became a minister . . . to make the word of God fully known . . .<sup>28</sup> Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.<sup>29</sup> For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me. Colossians 1:24-25, 28-29 (ESV)*

#### ● QUESTION #3: IS IT OK WITH GOD FOR A SINGLE ADULT TO PURSUE MARRIAGE?

See 1 Corinthians 7:36-38.

#### Things for Singles to Remember As They Pursue Marriage

- Do not allow yourself to get romantically involved with a non-Christian.
- Understand what attracts you to your potential partner.
- Set boundaries on your passions up front.
- Act your age; communicate; get serious.
- Get input from God’s people when you seek marriage.

“Singled Out by God for Good” by Paige Benton Brown. See article at [www.pcpc.org/ministries/singles/singledout.php/](http://www.pcpc.org/ministries/singles/singledout.php/).

*I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another. <sup>8</sup>To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single as I am. 1 Corinthians 7:7-8 (ESV)*

*But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion. 1 Corinthians 7:9 (ESV)*

*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. <sup>33</sup>But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world—how he can please his wife—<sup>34</sup>and his interests are divided. 1 Corinthians 7:32-34a (NIV)*

*If you have a wife, do not seek to end the marriage. If you do not have a wife, do not seek to get married. <sup>28</sup>But if you do get married, it is not a sin. And if a young woman gets married, it is not a sin. However, those who get married at this time will have troubles, and I am trying to spare you those problems. 1 Corinthians 7:27-28 (NLT)*

*This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, <sup>30</sup>and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, <sup>31</sup>and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (ESV)*

*If anyone thinks he is acting improperly toward the virgin he is engaged to, and if she is getting along in years and he feels he ought to marry, he should do as he wants. He is not sinning. They should get married. <sup>37</sup>But the man who has settled the matter in his own mind, who is under no compulsion but has control over his own will, and who has made up his mind not to marry the virgin—this man also does the right thing. <sup>38</sup>So then, he who marries the virgin does right, but he who does not marry her does even better. 1 Corinthians 7:36-38 (NIV)*