

Week 6 Member Guide Living Single

SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In the message this week, we learned that God's Word affirms those who are gifted and called to live lives as a single believer.

WARM UP

- Are most assumptions people make about living single are positive or negative? Why?
- What are some perceptions people may have about single adults?
- What is your response to the following statements about singles?
 - Single people are miserable. If they want to be happy, they need to get married.
 - > If you are single, there is nothing more you care about than getting married.
 - > If you are single, your life is superficial and lacking.
 - Single people are isolated, lonely and alone.
 - > People that choose to remain single all their lives are selfish.

THE TEXT: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

READ: 1 Corinthians 7:8:

- Why do you think Paul believes it is good to be single?
- How do you think Paul's life would have been different had he been married with kids?

READ: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31:

- Whether married or single, what does 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 tell the follower of Christ?
- What are some practical ways we can live this out in our daily lives?

READ: 1 Corinthians 7:32-35:

• What does it mean to be called to a life of singleness?

- Why might God call some believers to never marry?
- What are some benefits for living a life as a Christian single?
- Christ followers face a variety of spiritual battles every day. What are some of these battles that are unique to those who are called to be unmarried?
- What do you believe to be the predominant attitude, in the Church, toward those who do not marry?

DIGGING DEEPER

READ THIS: "...for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to live on almost nothing or with plenty. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength." Philippians 4:11-13

PRAY: Take time to pray that each person will seek to live a content life in Christ, no matter whether they are single or married.

PRACTICE: For further study, check out these blogs:

> Christian Advice for Singles.

http://applygodsword.com/christian-advice-for-singles/

> How Can my Church Minister to Singles?

https://www.harvestusa.org/how-can-my-church-minister-to-singles/#.XFr7tVVKg1k

CLOSING THOUGHT

"Singleness is one of those things (for me anyway) that requires acceptance of the grace God gives you for today and not worry about whether you'll have it for tomorrow, next year or the next decade. Seasons of life change. I believe that one can live in obedience, acceptance and contentment for the present season, trusting God to prepare them for other seasons as they may come."

Professor Theophilus