

Surprises, Myths, and Blessings of Singleness

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I Corinthians 7: 1-40
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Introduction







1. They Feel Rootless



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²⁰ Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." Matthew 8:20

- 1. They Feel Rootless (Matt 8:20)
- 2. They Feel Lonely



- 1. They Feel Rootless (Matt 8:20)
- 2. They Feel Lonely
- O Lord, You have searched me and known me. Psalm 139:1

Myth#1: Singleness is bad for you.



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- I Cor.7:28,
- 28 But if you marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. Yet such will have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you.

I Cor.7:32-35

³² But I want you to be free from concern. One who is unmarried is concerned about the things of the Lord, how he may please the Lord; 33 but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how he may please his wife, 34 and his interests are divided. The woman who is unmarried, and the virgin, is concerned about the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and spirit; but one who is married is concerned about the things of the world, how she may please her husband. 35 This I say for your own benefit; not to put a restraint upon you, but to promote what is appropriate and to secure undistracted devotion to the Lord.



Myth#1: Singleness is bad for you.

- I Cor.7:28,
- I Cor.7:32-35
- Paul is NOT saying that if you are married, you cannot have devotion to the Lord; nor is he saying that if you are single, you have devotion to the Lord. He is saying that if you single, there are less distractions in doing Christian ministry. Those that are single are being pulled in fewer directions than those that are married.

Myth #2: Singlenss requires a special calling



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• I Cor.7:7

⁷ Yet I wish that all men were even as I myself am. However, each man has his <u>own gift from God</u>, one in this manner, and another in that.



Myth #2: Singlenss requires a special calling

- I Cor.7:7
- When Paul is talking about "his own gift from God," he is not talking a superpower about being single or married, he is talking about the state of being single or married itself. The gift of singleness is the gift of being single; just as the gift of marriage is the gift of being married. And all of God's gifts are good.



Myth#3–Singleness must be very isolating; lacks intimacy.



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• John 15:15

¹⁵ No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you **friends**, for all things that I have heard from My Father I have made known to you.



Myth#3–Singleness must be very isolating; lacks intimacy.

- John 15:15
- Singles can experience great intimacy, rich and deep friendships, even deeper friendship than if you were married.





• Eph.5:31-32

³¹ FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH. ³² This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.



- Eph.5:31-32
- If a healthy marriage can show us the model or shape of the gospel, healthy singleness can show us the sufficiency of the gospel. Your singlesness can be used to testify to a world that is obsessed with marriage and sexuality that those things are not ultimate. But in Christ, we have the thing that is ultimate. Jesus is the ultimate reality.



• II Tim.4:7, "I have fought the good fight (I have lived by faith), I have finished the course (I have stayed in God's plan), I have kept the faith (I have lived out the Word of God in my life)."