

DISCUSSION GUIDE

What stands out to you about the statistics on singleness and marriage that were mentioned in the sermon?

What are some of the “singleness stigmas” that exist?

1. The benefit of minimizing distractions (25-31)

Cultural message:

1. Singleness is an opportunity for self gratification.
 2. Singleness is a condition to be rescued from by marriage.
- How does Scripture speak to these cultural messages?

The specific distractions that singleness minimized in 1 Corinthians 7 related to persecution. What are some distractions that can be minimized by being single today?

Why is it tempting to use singleness as an excuse *from*, rather than a catalyst *for* serving God?

2. The benefit of maximizing devotion (32-38)

What are some specific ways that singleness provides an opportunity to maximize devotion?

If single people can *maximize* devotion to God, is Paul give married people an “excuse” for *minimized*, or lesser devotion to God than single people? Why or why not?

What are some ways this sermon is received differently by someone who is “single again,” or a single parent?

“Hurting, lonely single people, become hurting, lonely married people.”

“Your past is going to show up again in your future.”

“There really are no major “marriage problems.” There are “single people problems” that get brought into marriage.”

Discuss these statements. How does Scripture address them?

What are some of the biblical perspectives on finding the “right person?”

For deeper study this week, reread 1 Corinthians 7:25-38, and consider the following questions beyond the sermon notes:



What else shines from these verses, impacts, draws attention?



What is difficult to understand in these verses? What would you like to ask the writer, or the Lord?



What are other points of personal application for your life from these verses?