

# Grace-Based Marriage: Singleness

June 21, 2009

1 Cor 7:7; Matt 12:48-49; 1 Cor 7:32-35

## Singleness is a gift from God (I Cor 7:7-9)

If you are single, by choice or by circumstance, then God is giving you the gift of singleness. If God is giving you the gift of singleness, He will give you everything you need to be content. But this doesn't mean it will be easy. But Jesus will give you everything you need to be content in celibate singleness.

## Singleness means being part of Jesus' spiritual family? (Matt 12:46-49)

There's two kinds of families: earthly, physical families, and Jesus' spiritual family. Earthly, physical families have a crucial role in God's plan. But Jesus' spiritual family is more important: it lasts forever. So if you are single, you are not without family; you are part of the most important family. But this does not come automatically; it must be nurtured and pursued.

## Singleness frees you to build Jesus' spiritual family (1 Cor 7:32-35)

Paul's point is that single people are freed from the responsibilities of earthly families so they can be even more devoted to building Jesus' spiritual family.



## **HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING**

Read I Cor 7:7-9

Matthew 12:46-49

I Cor 7:32-35

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

How did these passages change your view of singleness?

If you are single, why is it hard to see singleness as a gift? How can this be overcome?

Which family have you seen as more important — earthly, physical family, or Jesus' spiritual family? Why has this been your view? How does Matthew 12 impact you?

If you are married, how have you viewed singleness? How do these passages challenge your thinking?

How could you as a home group do better at becoming Jesus' spiritual family?

What's your take-away from this passage? What are you going to do differently? When?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

