

Obstacles Of Being A Single Christian

Sunday AM 07/24/22

Introduction:

People who are married can forget what it is like to be a “single Christian”. Some get married early in life and never live a single life. Some may be envious of those who are single, “You have it made”, “You don’t have to answer to anyone”, “You are free to do whatever you want to do”, etc. In reality there are disadvantages and advantages of being single.

I) Obstacles

A) Unfulfilled desires.

1 Corinthians 7:1 *Now concerning the things of which you wrote to me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman. 2 Nevertheless, because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.*

1. There are different kinds of desires people have, one is the sexual desire.
 - a. Men tend to think more about the fulfillment of sexual desire in marriage. Which is Biblical as this is the place for such desire to be fulfilled.

Proverbs 5:18 *Let your fountain be blessed, And rejoice with the wife of your youth. 19 As a loving deer and a graceful doe, Let her breasts satisfy you at all times; And always be enraptured with her love.*

- b. Women tend to be more interested in companionship, romance, security. Women who get involved in a sexual relationship tend to do so not because of the desire for sex but something else.
2. Family desire- having children
3. Guard your heart.

Matthew 5:28 *"But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart."*

- a. The first step toward sin is to look which leads to desire which leads to action. Think of King David.
- b. Be honest with yourself about your desires and think about what God says about those desires.

B) Loneliness

Ecclesiastes 4:9 *Two are better than one, Because they have a good reward for their labor. 10 For if they fall, one will lift up his companion. But woe to him who is alone when he falls, For he has no one to help him up. 11 Again, if two lie down together, they will keep warm; But how can one be warm alone? 12 Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.*

1. There is power, strength, safety, security in having companions. Think about this one single fact, women go to the restroom together, men do not.
2. Many suffer from loneliness, can lead to depression.
 - a. Have you ever cried before going to your house or apartment because you are lonely?
 - b. Have you ever gone to a movie just to be around other people?
 - c. Going on vacation alone can be lonely.
3. There are numerous occasions where you will feel like the odd person out. Holidays, special occasions, even funerals.
4. Important to note that even married people sometimes feel lonely. A different type of loneliness but it is different.
5. Hard to live by yourself or feel like you are alone.
 - a. "I alone am left"

1 Kings 18:21 And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word. **22** Then Elijah said to the people, "I alone am left a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

1 Kings 19:10 So he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

1 Kings 19:14 And he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

b. Fact is, Elijah was not "alone" but he was lonely. He felt isolated and like no one else cared like he cared.

6. God has not cast off those who are faithful to Him.

Romans 11:1 I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. **2** God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew. Or do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel, saying, **3** "LORD, they have killed Your prophets and torn down Your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life"? **4** But what does the divine response say to him? "I have reserved for Myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal."

C. Allow your loneliness cause you to make bad decisions.

Proverbs 12:26 The righteous should choose his friends carefully, For the way of the wicked leads them astray.

1 Corinthians 15:33 Do not be deceived: "Evil company corrupts good habits."

1. Some Christians get so lonely they start hanging around bad people, I don't mean people who are not Christian's but actually

bad people.

2. People who will tempt them to sin. **Proverbs 1** kind of people.
3. Don't hang around people who are users and abusers.
4. Make friends with people who will listen to you.
5. Make friends with people who can laugh at themselves.

D) Single Christians who desire to get married

1. Disadvantage of the 'marriage pool" getting smaller.
2. After a while you realize many of your peers are married.
3. Leaving fewer prospects.
 - a. Those never married

Matthew 19:4 *And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' 5 "and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'?"*

- b. Those who's spouse has passed away.

1 Corinthians 7:39 *A wife is bound by law as long as her husband lives; but if her husband dies, she is at liberty to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord.*

- c. Those who put away their spouse for unfaithfulness.

Matthew 5:32 *"But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.*

II) Warnings to Single Christians.

- A) Don't complain and grumble about your station in life.**

Philippians 2:14 *Do all things without complaining and disputing,*

1. Don't blame God for being single.
2. God's plan is for your salvation not your marriage.
3. Jesus died on the cross to save you, not to find you a mate.

B) Temptation to idolize marriage

1. Some people make it their life goal to get married.
 - a. They think their life will be better once they get married.
 - b. Marriage is good but it is not the magic pill to solve all your problems.
2. Some will accept who ever comes along and get into a "bad marriage."
 - a. Marriage is for a man and a woman; not a boy or a girl.
 - b. Think about the kind of person you are marrying.
3. Don't compromise your relationship with Christ in order to get married.

2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?

- a. Some will leave the faith in order to get married. Known many to have grown up in the church to only leave once married.
- b. Solomon allowed his wives to turn his heart away from God.

1 Kings 11:4 For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as was the heart of his father David.

- c. Jesus asked an important question:

Matthew 16:26 "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Conclusion:

Your soul is worth more than the whole world. It is worth the precious blood of Jesus.

Obstacles are a part of life. Think of people on AGT.

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. **4** But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.