

THE BEAUTY OF SINGLE LIFE

Sylvester Onyemalechi

1 Cor 7:1-9

7:1 Now for the matters you wrote about: It is good for a man not to marry. 2 But since there is so much immorality, each man should have his own wife, and each woman her own husband. 3 The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. 4 The wife's body does not belong to her alone but also to her husband. In the same way, the husband's body does not belong to him alone but also to his wife. 5 Do not deprive each other except by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control. 6 I say this as a concession, not as a command. 7 I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. 8 Now to the unmarried and the widows I say: It is good for them to stay unmarried, as I am. 9 But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

NIV

1 Cor 7:25-28

25 Now about virgins: I have no command from the Lord, but I give a judgment as one who by the Lord's mercy is trustworthy. 26 Because of the present crisis, I think that it is good for you to remain as you are. 27 Are you married? Do not seek a divorce. Are you unmarried? Do not look for a wife. 28 But if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. But those who marry will face many troubles in this life, and I want to spare you this.

NIV

It is the dream of almost every young man and woman to get married someday. And when there appears to be a delay, worry, sadness and desperation takes over. This dream has taken over many young people to the extent that they are blinded to the beauty of being single. In his article, I will like you to see the beauty of single life so you can enjoy life to the fullest.

4 THINGS YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT LIFE

- 1.** Life is in phases.
- 2.** There are many reasons in man's life. Time of singleness is one of them.
- 3.** Just as there is a purpose for every creation of God, so also there is a purpose for every phase and season in a man's life.
- 4.** Everyone is expected to make most of every opportunity, or rather, every phase of life.

Eph 5:16

16 making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

NIV

Col 4:5

5 Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

NIV

THE PURPOSE OF SINGLE LIFE

1. It is a time of learning and growing up.
2. It is a time of discovery of self.
3. It is a time to build one's personality. 99% of our personality is formed during single life – from childhood to adulthood.
4. It is a time of exploring the world around you.
5. It is a time of cultivating principles and values that one will live by for life.
6. It is a time to learn about relationships both at home and outside.
 - The family is the first school of relationship for everybody. Success or failure in this school will determine success or failure in your future home.
 - The relationship we have in schools of learning and outside the home, offers opportunity to learn about people.
 - The problem is that many people don't learn from their experiences. Start learning now.

Get my tape: LEARNING FROM THE PAST

7. It is a time to develop in taking responsibilities.
 - Marriage is responsibility – responsibility to managing your own life, spouse and children.
 - It involves management of time, resources and people.
8. Single are not burdened like the married with marital responsibilities, therefore, they have more time to themselves in pursuing their own life goals and interest.
9. Single life is a time to channel one's energy; time, training, talents and gifts to the service of the living God. *“Remember your creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you will say, “I find no pleasure in them (Eccl. 12:1) Read also I Cor. 7:32-335).*
10. Single life is a time of freedom. Once a man or woman is married, his movement, association, desire, dressing and eating habits are checked. Even your prayer life, study life, evangelism and missionary life is affected. That is why Paul says that the man who refuses to marry for the sake of the kingdom is better than the one who marries because his attention will not be divided. Marriage is great responsibility.
11. The season of singleness is one's life is a time to know God intimately, and work hard for the expansion of His kingdom here on earth and the building up of the body of Christ.
 - The habits of today are the destiny of tomorrow.
 - What you do repeatedly determines what comes to you, goes away from, or happens to you.
 - A strong Christian single life will serve as a strong foundation for a strong Christian marriage.

- The habits and principles adopted in single life are the foundation upon which every marriage is built.

WHAT SINGLE LIFE IS NOT FOR

1. It is not a time to explore sexual charms.
2. It is not a time to be immoral or multiply sexual partners.
3. It is not a time to be rebellious against God.

It is the glory of a youth to marry as a virgin. This is God's plan and desire. Uphold your virginity. If you have lost yours, but have repented, don't defile yourself again.

STEPS TO PURITY

1. Think pure to be pure, for you are what you think.
 - Immoral thoughts will breed immoral life.
 - Anti-God thoughts will produce anti-Christ lifestyle.

Prov 23:7

7 For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.

KJV

Prov 2:19

19 For as in water face answers to face so the mind of man reveals the man

RSV

2. Be determined to keep yourself for your husband or wife within marriage.
3. Read the right materials, listen to the right music and conversation, and watch the right TV programs to keep you pure and bubbling for God.

Prov 4:20-22

20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. 21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. 22 For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

KJV

4. Associate with the right people – heavenly minded people.
 - Some people are bad news. Stay away from such.

1 Cor 15:33

33 Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.

KJV

5. Fellowship and work for God regularly. Give your life to Christ if you haven't. Be a witness for him,

John 3:16

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

KJV

Heb 10:25

25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

KJV

Acts 1:8

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

KJV