

Rewiring My Worldview: Purpose in Singleness, Marriage, and Parenting

Living on mission in every phase of life

By Tim LaTour, November 17, 2024

SINGLENES

Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. I wish that all were as I myself am. But each has his own gift from God, one of one kind and one of another. To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

1 Corinthians 7:6-9 ESV

I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, and his interests are divided... I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35 ESV

- Exploring Independence   Growing Dependence 
- Pursuit of Pleasure   Contentment  in Christ
- Temporary  Relationships  Supportive  Community

MARRIAGE

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, His body, and is Himself its Saviour. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the Word, so that He might present the church to Himself in splendour, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish... "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This mystery is profound, and I am saying

that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

Ephesians 5:22-27, 31-33 ESV

- Contract ✓ ⇄ Covenant ✓
- Individual Autonomy ✓ ⇄ Mutual Submission ✓
- Being in Love ✓ ⇄ Serving ✓ in Love

PARENTING

Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

Exodus 20:12 ESV

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6 ESV

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Deuteronomy 6:4-7 ESV

- Child-centred ✓ ⇄ God-centred ✓
- Success-oriented ✓ ⇄ Character-oriented ✓
- Flexible Morality ✓ ⇄ Biblical Foundation ✓

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. In what specific ways can you glorify God in your current season of life – whether in singleness, marriage, or parenting?

2. Are there any cultural expectations or personal desires that you need to realign with a Christ-centred perspective? How might doing so impact your relationships and purpose?