

Divine Guidelines for Singleness

a study in 1 Cor. 7:17-40

I. Introduction

1. In vv. 17-24, Paul furthers the principle of faithfulness where God has called you
2. In vv. 25-40, after making it clear that neither marriage nor singleness are holier than the other, Paul gives reasons for remaining single

II. The Christian and Society (vv. 17-24)

1. What matters is _____
2. Do not focus on the _____ above the supernatural in your life

III. Reasons for Remaining Single (vv. 25-40) (there are six)

1. The intensity of the spiritual _____ gives a reason for spiritually-focused individuals
2. Marriage brings with it its _____ that singleness may not have.
3. Christians do not focus their energies or tie their happiness to _____
4. Marriage introduces certain _____ that those who are single are not subject to
5. When it comes to the Father and his daughter, if she wants to serve the _____ in singleness or marriage, then the choice results in her good or her best.
6. If the Christian is single, widowed, or divorced, then singleness may be a _____ the believer can serve God with.

IV. Conclusion

1. The blessing of the Lord will be on the *faithful*
2. The seriousness of sin should encourage us to serve the Lord carefully and fervently
3. Marriage is a wonderful blessing, just as singleness is a gift from the Lord

Answer Key:

I. Introduction

II. The Christian and Society (vv. 17-24)

1. What matters is **FAITHFULNESS**
2. Do not focus on the **NATURAL** above the supernatural in your life

III. Reasons for Remaining Single (vv. 25-40) (there are six)

1. The intensity of the spiritual **WARFARE** gives a reason for spiritually-focused individuals
2. Marriage brings with it its **CHALLENGES** that singleness may not have.
3. Christians do not focus their energies or tie their happiness to **THIS WORLD**
4. Marriage introduces certain **RESPONSIBILITIES** that those who are single are not subject to
5. When it comes to the Father and his daughter, if she wants to serve the **LORD** in singleness or marriage, then the choice results in her good or her best.
6. If the Christian is single, widowed, or divorced, then singleness may be a **GIFT** the believer can serve God with.

IV. Conclusion