

The Clown and the Flower

1 Cor 7:1-16

The local church is where God's design for marriage and singleness is faithfully pursued as a living illustration of the gospel.

God desires the local church to display the gospel;

1. in marriage. v1-5, Mark 10:6–8, 2 Corinthians 11:2
2. in singleness. v6-8, Matthew 7:7, James 1:5
3. in difficulty. v9-16, John 13:34, Luke 6:31

Philippians 2:5-11

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die.

~Dietrich Bonhoeffer~

1906-1945, German Lutheran pastor, author, teacher, and anti-Nazi dissident who was a key founding member of the Confessing Church. His 1937 book *The Cost of Discipleship* is a modern classic all Christians should read. He is known for his courageous resistance to the Nazi dictatorship to the genocidal persecution of Jews. He was arrested in April 1943 and was hanged on 9 April 1945 during the collapse of the Nazi regime.