

What does the Bible say about... singleness?

1) Introduction

How do you feel talking about the subject of singleness? Does it feel hard, useful, or irrelevant to you?

Christian singleness = unmarried + celibate.

2) What does the church and the culture say about Christian singleness?

Is the following accurate?

Church: *Chaste?* 👍 *Unmarried?* 👎

Culture: *Unmarried?* 👍 *Chaste?* 👎

Both: singleness is a problem to be solved.

Can you think of instances when you've heard these messages? Any times when you yourself may have contributed to these messages?

3) What does the Bible say about singleness?

How would you summarise the Bible's message on singleness? Is it positive or negative?

In what ways is singleness a gift? At the same time, why can it be a hard gift to receive?

How does being single in this life point us to Jesus and his gospel? How is this different or similar to how being married in this life points to Jesus and his gospel?

Reflection: Whether married or single, how are you doing at living not for yourself but for the bridegroom Jesus Christ? Are you living for the heavenly marriage of Christ and his church?

How are you doing at aiming your life towards making disciples and investing in spiritual children?

4) What will you say about singleness?

Why can it often feel does it easy to feel left behind when single? Is there anything that helps in times like that?

How well do you think your group is doing at living as family - including married couples, children *and* singles in church life?

What are you doing well at the moment? What could be better?

How can we best pray for each other with this issue?

One thing: what's one thing that's **encouraged** you and one thing you want to **do** this week as a result of this discussion?