

Theme: God calls us to be truly 'single' – devoted first and foremost to Him and His Kingdom - before seeking marriage.

I. Intro – New Series

- A. Series on family & household
- B. Note focal point on this topic
- C. Look at all phases
 - 1. Single life
 - 2. Marriage
 - 3. Children
- D. Look at controversial topics
 - 1. Sex outside of marriage?
 - 2. Alternative marriages?
 - 3. Divorce and remarriage?
- E. Begin with single life
 - 1. Most of us begin our own family life here
 - 2. Most common type of household in 2000 census (Breakpoint)
 - 3. Yet many just want to 'get married'
 - 4. What is God's plan for singles?

II. The Things Pagans Seek

- A. Things pagans seek (v32) - necessities!
 - 1. Food and drink – vv 25-26
 - 2. Clothing – vv 25, 30
- B. Today this often includes a sexual relationship
 - 1. Could be marriage, cohabitation, hookups
 - 2. 'Important to fulfill this part of our being'
 - 3. We will deal with proper place of sex later
- C. Important things – but not primary (vv31-32)
 - 1. These are important things – God knows our needs
 - 2. Problem is the focus – what is primary

III. What We Are To Seek

- A. We are to seek God's Kingdom first (v33)
 - 1. This is to be our first concern
 - 2. God's kingdom – His rule in our lives
 - 3. God's righteousness – justification, right conduct
 - 4. We can only have one focus – and this is it
 - 5. Example of rifle range – where is focus
- B. The reason this is key: one master (v24)

1. Each person can only have one master
2. Try to serve two – will end up hating one
3. Not just hyperbole – a real outcome
4. If other things first, we will be frustrated w/ God

C. The sufficiency of God – Psalm 84:10-12

1. God is better than all else – He is all we need (v10)
2. Favor & blessing is found walking with Him (v11)
3. We trust Him to meet our needs (v12)
4. Can I really pray this with conviction?

IV. Are You Truly ‘Single’?

A. Are you truly single – or just ‘unmarried’?

1. There is a major difference between the two
2. What is your focus – God or your desires?
3. What is your God – the Lord or other things?
4. Use this time to grow close to God

B. Is your family submitted to the kingdom?

1. What is first – God or your family?
2. How is it evident that God is first in your family?

3. Is your family shaped by the Word or the world?

On Being 'Single' - Seeking First the Kingdom

Matthew 6:24-33

October 30, 2005

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Based on Matthew 6:33

Strengthening the Family

We will strive to provide instruction on the family and our place within it

- ✓ We will strive to provide instruction on every phase of life, from childhood through the elderly years, to help us understand how to better serve God at each stage
- ✓ We will provide instruction on the biblical nature of the family to help us sort our way through the present cultural confusion over the family
- ✓ We will provide basic instruction on how to build a family that glorifies God

“In 2000, the most common type of household had neither a partner nor children (32 percent), followed by households with a partner and children (31 percent), households with a partner but without children (26 percent), and households with children but without a partner (12 percent).”

Examining American Household Composition: 1990 and 2000
US Census Bureau Special Report

¹⁰ Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked. ¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. ¹² O LORD Almighty, blessed is the man who trusts in you.

Psalm 84:10-12