

WHOLENESS



AND

Singleness

Why a Sermon on Singleness?

Why a Sermon on Singleness?

- 1) Singles often feel neglected in churches.

Why a Sermon on Singleness?

- 1) Singles often feel neglected in churches.
- 2) A lot of “nones” are single.

Why a Sermon on Singleness?

- 1) Singles often feel neglected in churches.
- 2) A lot of “nones” are single.
- 3) Singles often wrestle with wholeness.

Why a Sermon on Singleness?

- 1) Singles often feel neglected in churches.
- 2) A lot of “nones” are single.
- 3) Singles often wrestle with wholeness.
- 4) The Bible has a lot to say about it.

The Bible and Singleness

The Bible and Singleness

- Genesis 2:18: not good for man to be alone

The Bible and Singleness

- Genesis 2:18: not good for man to be alone
- Big theme in Genesis: “offspring” or “seed”

The Bible and Singleness

- Genesis 2:18: not good for man to be alone
- Big theme in Genesis: “offspring” or “seed”
- Single or barren: considered as curses in OT

“The word of the Lord came to me: 2 “You shall not take a wife, nor shall you have sons or daughters in this place. 3 For thus says the Lord concerning the sons and daughters who are born in this place, and concerning the mothers who bore them and the fathers who fathered them in this land: 4 They shall die of deadly diseases. They shall not be lamented, nor shall they be buried. They shall be as dung on the surface of the ground. They shall perish by the sword and by famine, and their dead bodies shall be food for the birds of the air and for the beasts of the earth.”

Jeremiah 16:1-4

The Bible and Singleness

- Genesis 2:18: not good for man to be alone
- Big theme in Genesis: “offspring” or “seed”
- Single or barren: considered as curses in OT
- Prophecies in Isaiah 53, 54, and 56

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. 7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. 8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people?”

Isaiah 53:6-8

The Bible and Singleness

- Genesis 2:18: not good for man to be alone
- Big theme in Genesis: “offspring” or “seed”
- Single or barren: considered as curses
- Prophecies in Isaiah 53, 54, and 56
- Jesus was cut off and had no offspring.

“Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand.”

Isaiah 53:10

“Sing, O barren one, who did not bear; break forth into singing and cry aloud, you who have not been in labor! For the children of the desolate one will be more than the children of her who is married,” says the Lord. 2 “Enlarge the place of your tent, and let the curtains of your habitations be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your stakes. 3 For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left, and your offspring will possess the nations and will people the desolate cities.

4 “Fear not, for you will not be ashamed; be not confounded, for you will not be disgraced; for you will forget the shame of your youth, and the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more. 5 For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called.”

Isaiah 54:1-5

“3 Let not the foreigner who has joined himself to the Lord say, “The Lord will surely separate me from his people”; and let not the eunuch say, “Behold, I am a dry tree.” 4 For thus says the Lord: “To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose the things that please me and hold fast my covenant, 5 I will give in my house and within my walls a monument and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.”

Isaiah 56:3-5

The Bible and Singleness

- Genesis 2:18: not good for man to be alone
- Big theme in Genesis: “offspring” or “seed”
- Single or barren: considered as curses
- Prophecies in Isaiah 53, 54, and 56
- Jesus was cut off and had no offspring.
- Singleness and barrenness redeemed through Jesus!

26 Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. 27 And he rose and went.

And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah.

29 And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

34 And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?”

35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. 36 And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” 38 And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him.”

Acts 8:26-38

6 Now as a concession, not a command, I say this. 7 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.”

32 I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. 33 But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, 34 and his interests are divided.”

1 Corinthians 7:6-7, 32-34

The Bible and Singleness

- Genesis 2:18: not good for man to be alone
- Big theme in Genesis: “offspring” or “seed”
- Single or barren: considered as curses
- Prophecies in Isaiah 53, 54, and 56
- Jesus was cut off and had no offspring.
- Singleness and barrenness redeemed through Jesus!
- Singleness as a gift to produce spiritual offspring

Marriage and Singleness each uniquely
shine the light of the gospel!

Marrieds and Singles all find
WHOLENESS in Christ.

Marrieds and Singles must battle for
CONTENTMENT over COVETING.

WHOLENESS



AND

Singleness