

**Together: Study of 1 Corinthians**  
**“Advantages of Being Single”**  
**1 Corinthians 7:25-40**  
**April 22, 2018 / Pastor Shawn**

<sup>25</sup> Now about virgins: I have no command from the Lord, but I give judgment as one who by the Lord’s mercy is trustworthy.

1 Corinthians 7:25

**1. Singles can live more dangerously for Jesus Christ.**

<sup>26</sup> Because of the present crisis, I think that it is good for a man to remain as he is. <sup>27</sup> Are you pledged to a woman? Do not seek to be released. Are you free from such a commitment? Do not look for a wife.

1 Corinthians 7:26-27

♦ **Anagkē (ä-nä’n-kā): crisis; distress; violence; pressure experienced from outside influence**

**2. Singles can have less drama in their life.**

<sup>28</sup> But if you do marry, you have not sinned; and if a virgin marries, she has not sinned. But those who marry will face many troubles in this life, and I want to spare you this.

1 Corinthians 7:28

♦ **Thlipsis (thlē’-psēs): trouble; pressure; to be squeezed**

**3. Singles can live with more focus.**

<sup>29</sup> What I mean brothers and sisters, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they do not; <sup>30</sup> those who mourn, as if they did not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; <sup>31</sup> those who use the things of this world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

♦ **Systellō (sü-ste’l-lō): to shorten; to roll up; to shorten the sails-get a ship ready for harbor**

**SATAN’S STRATEGIC PLAN OF ATTACK**

- **LURE YOU FROM GOD’S PATH**
- **TRAIN YOU FOR DEFEAT**
- **ROB YOU OF ALL HOPE**

**4. Singles can be more fully devoted**

<sup>32</sup> I would like you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the Lord’s affairs — how he can please the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But a married man is concerned about the affairs of this world — how he can please his wife — <sup>34</sup> and his interests are divided. An unmarried woman or virgin is concerned about the Lord’s affairs; Her aim is to be devoted to the Lord in both body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the affairs of this world — how she can please her husband. <sup>35</sup> I am saying this for your own good, not to restrict you, but that you may live in a right way in undivided devotion to the Lord.

1 Corinthians 7:32-35  
(see also: vs. 36-38)

**5. Singles can have more availability for Jesus to use them.**

<sup>39</sup> A woman is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, but he must belong to the Lord. <sup>40</sup> In my judgment, she is happier if she stays as she is — and I think that I too have the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 7:39-40

**Discussion Questions**

1. What was your “A-Ha” from Sunday’s message? Why did this grab your attention? Be specific.
2. What are the 5 Advantages to being Single that Pastor Shawn identified in this passage?
3. In verses 25-28, Paul mentions “present crisis” and “those who marry will face many troubles in this life.” What are some of the strains that external pressure(s) can put on a relationship?
4. In verses 29 and 35 Paul reminds us that “the time is short” and that we need to live with “undivided devotion to the Lord.” What are some practical ways you can keep a “Kingdom Focus” in your life? in your family? in your marriage?
5. If Single: How have you maximized your singleness by putting Jesus first? In what specific ways have you demonstrated full devotion to Jesus? How have you found significance and fulfillment in your relationship with Jesus?
5. If Married: How have you and your spouse worked through distresses and troubles in your married life? Have these trials bonded you in your love for Jesus and each other? If so, how? What have you and your spouse learned over the years that you could share with others?
6. How can you avoid allowing a good thing (marriage or singleness) to take place of the best thing (devotion to Jesus)?