

**PURELATIONSHIPS: Purely Single**  
**Sermon #3, 1 Corinthians 7:7-9, 25-40**

**Main Point: Live pure lives as single people, for the glory of God and your own good.**

**Getting to Know You**

1. What are some unique challenges facing unmarried people in our world today?
2. In your honest opinion, do you think single people are treated the same as married people in our church? Why or why not?

**Getting Into the Book**

Read 1 Corinthians 7:7-9, 25-40

3. In 1 Corinthians 7:7 and Matthew 19:10-11, how is being single described by the Apostle Paul and Jesus? (Answer: as a God-given gift. It can be a gift when God gives a person the power not to be distressed by their sexual desire.)
4. What are some reasons for why a person would choose to stay single? See Matthew 19:12c and 1 Corinthians 7:25-31. (Note: a Eunuch was one who was incapable of sexual relations either due to birth defect, castration, or choosing to remain celibate.)
5. What are the benefits of being single according to 1 Corinthians 7:32-35? Name a few of the 'troubles of this life' and 'concerns' that result from being married (7:28, 32), from which Paul is trying to spare us. Have fun with this ☺!
6. Reading this passage, one may conclude that it is wrong to marry. But what specific verses tell us that being married is good and being single is good?
7. Pretend you were giving advice to a single friend who asked you what type of a person God would want them to marry. What biblical counsel would you give them? (See 2 Corinthians 6:14-15. Pastor Blair listed 4 criteria in his message: the person should have a growing Christian conviction, a growing Christian character, a growing Christian commitment, and a growing Christian comradery.)
8. Have you ever struggled with the question 'how far is too far?' What do you think of the standard 'any and all sexual activity outside of marriage is prohibited'? How do the following verses help you see that this conclusion is valid? See 1 Corinthians 7:7-9; 1 Timothy 5:1-2.

**Getting Out There**

1. Discuss some Godly ways to approach a dating relationship as opposed to how people typically approach it?

**Prayer**

If single, ask God to help you see if He wants you to remain single in order to serve Him in a more focused way. If married, ask God to help you be more focused on serving Him as a couple.