

Removing the mystique of singleness vs marriage

It's been said that marriage is like flies on a window-pane - those on the inside want out and those on the outside want in

What married people + singles think about each other's lives is a myth that needs to be exposed

When a single looks at marriage she sees the good things, and when marrieds look at singles they see the benefits of being single

Single

Married

- ① Being single is hard
 - ② Singles see ~~see~~ what you gain, they don't see what you give up
 - ③ Freedom of purpose: an undistracted devotion to the Lord. Resources: you can use them wherever you want
 - ④ Singles see marriage as a place of security + direction - a ship that is going somewhere
 - ⑤ Singles feel aimless because they believe real life + purpose begin in marriage. They waste time + often don't make the decision to follow God.
- ① It's even harder being married
 - ② You give up freedoms - the freedoms of purpose + resources
 - ③ Marriage involves others and their needs + desires
 - purpose - involves another
 - resources - decide together
 - ④ Being in a marriage + kids is often less like steering a ship than being in an avalanche → it's already in motion + you have to help steer this almost out of control raging avalanche
 - ⑤ Marrieds look at singles as happy + carefree - ^{misses} ~~is~~ bysyness - which has stripped their lives of romance - the very thing they thought they were getting in marriage

Remembering the importance of discipline in learning

The first rule of the discipline is to be consistent. This means that you should practice every day, even if it's just for a few minutes. Consistency is key to building a habit.

What many people don't realize is that discipline is not a punishment. It's a way of taking control of your life and making it work for you. It's about making choices that will lead to long-term success.

When you lack discipline, you are essentially giving up on your dreams. You are allowing your emotions and impulses to take over, which leads to a life of regret and missed opportunities.

Discipline is the bridge between goals and accomplishment. It's the daily commitment to do what you need to do, even when you don't feel like it. It's the difference between a dream and a reality.

Remember, discipline is not a one-time thing. It's a continuous process. You have to stay committed and focused, even when the going gets tough. It's about showing up every day and doing your best.

Discipline is the secret to a successful life. It's the foundation upon which you can build a future of happiness and fulfillment. Don't let your dreams slip away from you. Start today.

Discipline is the key to a better life. It's the power to overcome your weaknesses and achieve your goals. It's the strength to stand firm in the face of adversity and keep moving forward.

Discipline is the path to a more meaningful life. It's the way to find purpose and passion in everything you do. It's the ability to focus on what matters and ignore the distractions.

Discipline is the secret to a more productive life. It's the way to get more done in less time and with less stress. It's the ability to prioritize your tasks and stay on track.

Discipline is the key to a more confident life. It's the way to build self-esteem and trust in your abilities. It's the knowledge that you are capable of achieving anything you set your mind to.

Discipline is the secret to a more successful life. It's the way to reach your goals and live the life you deserve. It's the power to take control of your destiny and create a bright future for yourself.

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Singles

⑥ feel like the odd woman out watching marrieds rub each other's neck & stroke their hair
 → they see romance

⑦ singles look at marriage as completers
 - a way to meet their deepest needs

⑧ Singles see marriage as something like salvation - you've got to have it or be planning for it the day you graduate from college - or you are a lost soul

Marrieds

⑥ The biggest surprise to newlyweds is how much of sex is not sexual. Sex is not a thermostat that fires up heat in marriage. It is more like a thermometer that measures the heat or coldness that is already there. Friends is the thermostat.

⑦ Marrieds find out that their mate is not enough - he cannot meet your deepest needs - no one person can, nor can children

⑧ Marrieds see singles as wild & crazy, carefree romantics who have only 2 items in their budget →
 a) clothing & going out to
 b) dinner & then dancing
 i.e. having a good time all the time

You need to see there is nothing inherently satisfying about marriage and there is nothing inherently satisfying about being single.

There is a great amount of lifetime satisfaction in God and being right where He wants you to be. He has to be your source of a) security and b) satisfaction - your c) best friend and d) companion. Col. 2:10 "in him you have been made complete". You are right where God wants you & can use you - and enjoy the benefits.

17/10/17

2017

God

He

1

11/17

2

11/17

3

Beware of spending your time & energy on looking for a mate instead of growing in your love for the Lord & serving Him

How many times I've seen a neat Xian girl having an impact in ministry take her eyes off the Lord & start looking for a man -> very soon she becomes ^{dissatisfied} ineffective (Heb. 12:1) "let us run with endurance the race that is set before us fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author & perfecter of our faith"

That doesn't mean you won't be lonely & want to get married. But there is a difference between aloneness & loneliness. We all suffer loneliness whether we're married or not

The Lord will show you that He is the One to fill your void and take the loneliness away. His Presence and the BOC can bring wholeness and fulfillment. Won't he be as lonely?

That's why it is so important before marriage that you understand Body Life in the church. It is the basic structure thru which God is working: the health and understanding of marriage is dependent on healthy relationships in the BOC.

1. As you build friendships
2. as you learn to give & receive
3. as you minister together in the BOC
4. As you listen to & accept counsel of mature believers
5. As your love relationship with Christ deepens you are getting prepared to build a great Xian marriage

