

Single Life

Talk #12

Scripture Ref: Romans 1:4-8, Acts 1:8, John 20:21

Speaker & Length Adult, 30 Minutes + 30 Minute Q&A

Progression We are called to holiness in single life. If one is living a fulfilled Christian life as a single, then an effective and healthy viewpoint for sharing is present. Singleness is not a consolation to being married.

Purpose This talk should show how holiness is part of one's life as a single person in society. The speaker should give witness as to how God has used his/her singleness for His purpose.

Introduction

Each person has a special call from God to share Christ's love using one's special gifts and talents. Single life is one way we are called and is a healthy and natural life style open to everyone.

I. Single Life

A. We each have a call to holiness

1. II Corinthians 7:1 - "Since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God."
2. I Corinthians 1:30 - "It is because of Him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God -- that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption."
3. Hebrews 12:14 - "Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord."

B. Each of us must develop our unique calling from God.

1. I Corinthians 7:7, 17 -- "I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.. .Nevertheless, each one should retain the place in life that the Lord assigned to him and to which God has called him. This is the rule I lay down in all the churches."
2. Each person is a unique creation of God.
3. Each person has special gifts and talents that are to be used in sharing Christ's love.

II. Importance of single life

A. The fact that you are single makes you free to give of yourself - no strings.

- I Corinthians 7:32 -- "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."
- B. Single life is not just an interim period or stagnant time in our life.
Psalm 25:12 -- "Who, then, is the man that fears the Lord? He will instruct him in the way chosen for him."
- C. We must live our life to the fullest.
1. Discover what your talents are.
 2. Use all of these talents to do His work. Parable of the Talents -- Matthew 25:14-30
 3. Each of us is important in the body of the Church. I Corinthians 12:12-27
- D. If we find our singleness a burden, we need to remind ourselves that being married is at times a burden, too.

III. We all give life

- A. Life is love and love is giving oneself to others.
1. John 15:12-14 -- "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command."
 2. I John 4:7-8 -- "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."
- B. We must be involved in our community.
Esther 4:14b -- "And who knows but that you have come ... for such a time as this?"

IV. Now it is time to share from your experiences of single life

- A. Was single life a choice or did you/have you considered marriage? Was it a conscious choice, a commitment, or a general feeling or attitude?
- B. What has living a single life meant to you?
1. What pressures and attitudes have you experienced?
 2. What have you encountered in a world that is generally oriented to married couples?
 3. How can one live a single life to the fullest in Christ? Using all our gifts and talents to reach our greatest potential.

V. Conclude your sharing time with some remarks or advice, based on your experience, on living a single life.

- A. It's okay to be single. Singleness for some is a choice. God will use your gifts and talents.
- B. Show how one can enjoy living a single life.
- C. Share ways that you have lived out your call to share Christ's love in your community, your family, your church, and in social involvement.

VI. Finally, take 15-20 minutes to answer questions from the candidates.