

SERMON NOTES

Title: One is a Whole Number

Text: Genesis 2:18; Mark 3:31-35

Topic: Singleness; Relationships

Teacher: Pastor Barry

Time: 9/24/23

File Under: Christian Living



A commonly held view is that marriage is **best**. The flip side of that, is that singles are **incomplete, unfinished, less than whole**.

“The Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone.” Genesis 2:18 We’ve made this out to say something it was **not intended** to say.

All human beings need **deep caring relationships** and cannot live alone, but that is not to say that **everyone** should be married.

In Mark 3:31-35 Jesus gives a **new view** of relationships: Your spiritual bond with a person can be **deeper, and more significant** than you blood bond.

Biblical Characters who were single: **Anna, John the Baptist, Jesus, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus.** **Paul** was not only single, but he says in I Corinthians 7:7 *“I wish that all men were as I am.”*

Guidelines for those who are single and those who are not:

FOR SINGLES:

1. Seek God’s **total plan** for your life.
2. Live with **quality** now.
3. Cultivate **deep, caring** relationships.
4. Be **cautious** about marrying, particularly if you are **unhappy** with your present state. **“No marriage”** is better than a **“bad marriage.”**
5. Stay **morally and sexually** pure.

FOR MARRIED COUPLES:

1. Value the **single** person.
2. Develop **sensitivity** toward singles.
3. Integrate singles into **the full fellowship** of the church.
4. Include singles into your **social circles**.

Digging Deeper: In Mark 3:31-35 Why was Jesus family worried about Him? What did the crowd expect? What did Jesus say is the basis for a family relationship with Him? Is doing God’s will an action or a belief?

For Further Reflection: What would be true of a Kingdom where the King viewed his subjects as his brothers and sisters? How does that reflect Jesus’ relationship with you?