



## Community Group Lesson Plan • Abbotsford

### Title of Sermon: Making Singleness Great Again!

Passage: 1 Corinthians 7:32-38

#### 5 Observations from the Text -

1. Divided Interests - Read 1 Cor 7:32-34.
  - a. Do we recoil at these verses? Why or why not?
  - b. How does our Christian culture, in Abbotsford, influence us as we read this passage?
  - c. What are some ways in which your interests are divided, if you are married?
  
2. Undivided Devotion - Read 1 Cor 7:32-35.
  - a. What does "devotion to the Lord" look like?
  - b. What is the purpose of singleness according to these verses?
  - c. In what ways does this teaching contrast/conflict with the wider culture's view on singleness?
  - d. In what ways does this contrast/conflict with the Christian culture's view on singleness?
    - i. Do we think of singleness as only a developmental stage (eg until you get married later in life)? Why or why not?
  - e. For Singles: In what ways does this challenge you?
  
3. Obvious Reason for Marriage - Read 1 Cor 7:36-37.
  - a. What were (are) your reasons for getting married?
  - b. How does this passage bring a helpful corrective to our view of sex?
  
4. Marriage is Good - Read 1 Cor 7:7 & 7:38.
  - a. Do you see marriage AND singleness as God's gifts for His people to make them more like Jesus?
  - b. Why do we feel that marriage is devalued, and needs defending, when the goodness of singleness is emphasized?
  
5. Singleness is Better - Read 1 Cor 7:7 & 7:38.
  - a. Have you considered that your singleness or marriage is a gift given to you by God? Does this change how you view your circumstance?
  - b. Do you need to repent of bitterness towards the gift, singleness or marriage, that God has given you?
  - c. In what ways can we as christians help marrieds and singles find belonging and deep connection in the local church?



- d. In what ways do “age and stage” based community groups help or hurt the goal of creating meaningful relationships in the local church?
  - i. What can you do (in your group or in your life) to continue to grow in hospitality towards your brothers and sisters in Christ?

### **Wrap Up and Prayer**

From your discussion, what resonated with you individually or as a group? Was there anything not discussed that stuck out to you from the sermon? Pray for each other along with other requests.

### **Benediction** - 1 Thess. 5:23-24 ESV

*"Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it."*