



GUEST SPEAKER

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SINGLES

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Daily Devotional for SINGLES

Here is a Daily Devotional to guide you in your spiritual life this week. You may use it for your personal growth or discuss it together in your Life Group.

Day One: The PURPOSE of Marriage.

- Read the story of the first marriage in Genesis 2:18-24. What principles does this story teach you about God's design for marriage? Make a list of the key principles. How does the list differ from the current cultural view of marriage?
- Marriage is fundamentally a covenant between a man and a woman before God. Why is the binding obligation of a marriage covenant so important? How would you respond to someone who says, "We don't need a marriage certificate to show we love each other."?
- Discuss this statement: "Become the kind of person you want to marry." What does that mean to you? What kind of person do you need to become for your future spouse to enjoy a happy marriage with?
- Pray and ask God to prepare you for marriage.

Day Two: The TIME for Marriage.

- Read Ecclesiastes 3:1-11. Did you expect to be single at this stage in your life? What factors within your control and beyond your control may have contributed to your current single state?
- Have you ever been in a relationship where you thought she or he might be the one - only to realize later how wrong that person would have been for you?
- Has being single allowed you to do certain things more easily than if you were married? If so, give some examples.
- Ask God to give you the grace and patience to accept HIS TIME for marriage. Praise Him while you wait!

Day Three: GRATEFULLY Single.

- Read Psalm 16. What happens when we attempt to "run after other gods"? What "gods" are you tempted to run after?
- David acknowledged that God is sovereign over his life: "Lord, you have assigned me my portion and my cup." How does remembering God's sovereignty help you embrace your current status as a single?
- How can you cultivate gratefulness? What does David know about God that causes him to rejoice? What is the source of your joy?
- Pray this prayer by faith: "Father God, thank you for this time in my life. Thank you that I am currently single. Help me to find the right life partner and bring me into a blessed marriage in your perfect time. I trust you to do this. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Day Four: DEVOTED to God.

- Read 1 Corinthians 7:29-35. What does Paul see as a distinct advantage of being single? Do you find that your main concern is "how to please the Lord," or do you find yourself distracted by other concerns?

- What does it mean to be devoted to God "in both body and spirit"? How can we increase our devotion to God in both body and spirit?
- There are hundreds of thousands of singles in Ghana looking for marriage, yet the median age of marriage continues to climb. More and more people put off marriage to pursue other goals. Why do you think this is true?
- How are the choices that you and your friends make different from the ones that your parents and grandparents made? What factors in society affected their choices? What has affected yours?
- Pray and ask God to increase your devotion to Him in body and spirit.

Day Five: CONTENTMENT.

- Read Philippians 4:4-13. Is it possible to be single and to be content at the same time? How can you be content while still desiring to be married?
- As a single, have you ever been told to "just be content"? How did that make you feel?
- Your status as a single can lead to frustration and self-doubt. Why haven't I married yet? When will I discover my life partner? Is there anything I can do to speed up the process? In the meantime, am I less than complete because I'm not married? Share your thoughts and feelings with a trusted friend in your Life Group, Ministry Team, or Fellowship Group at Agape House. Pray for one another.
- Pray and ask the Lord to give you contentment while you wait for marriage.

Day Six: SELF-CONTROL.

- Read 1 Corinthians 6:12-20. God reserves sexual intimacy for a man and a woman united in marriage. Sexual abstinence remains God's unalterable will for singles.
- We live in an era of sexual laxity, surrounded by explicitly sexual words, images, and expectations. What can a Christian single do to remain chaste in mind and body?
- What makes agape love more difficult than sexual love?
- Single life means freedom from the cares and responsibilities of an intimate relationship, and freedom for increased dedication to God's work. What are some of the significant ways singles you know are serving others? How has single life opened opportunities of service for you?
- Pray and ask the Lord to give you self-control over sexual desires.

Day Seven: The SINGLE LIFE.

- Read Psalm 139. If you find you are not coping well with single life, pinpoint one or two of your concerns, such as fear, finances, loneliness, self-image, or single parenting. Talk to your pastor or a mature Christian friend to help you find useful resources and practical solutions.
- Who do you know that lives a happy and productive life as a single adult? Invite that person to lunch or dinner for a "how do you do it - and do it so well?" conversation.
- Write a prayer composed of three parts: (1) A psalm of thanksgiving to God for the blessings He has given to you as a single (be specific). (2) Words of heartfelt repentance for those times you have failed to accept and appreciate God's will for your life and sincere resolution to commit yourself to Him. (3) A description of what your heart desires (be specific), and a petition that God will open the eyes of your spirit to the work of His Spirit in your life right now.