

Singleness

It is a gift from God in order for us to spend that time focusing on Him and using the spiritual gifts to grow His kingdom.

Most of the disciples were single (Peter had a mother in law in Matthew 8:14-15), as most known Christians in the Bible. Paul defined what we should do in this season to the Corinthians.

It is a gift - 1 Corinthians 7:7-8 "I wish that everyone was as I am. But each has his own gift from God, one this way, another that. To the unmarried and widows I say that it is best for them to remain as I am."

- Paul was single, sending this letter to the Corinthians and confirming each of us has the gift of singleness and marriage depending on what God gives us for that time.
- We have to remember that God's plan isn't our own. He has his perfect will for us in the now, not just for our futures. James reminds us, "Every good and perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17).

Advantages

Paul puts the advantages of singleness under the phrase "undivided devotion" in verses [32-35](#):

"And I want you to be free from concern. An unmarried man is concerned about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. But a married man is concerned about the things of the world, how to please his wife, and he is divided. An unmarried woman or a virgin is concerned about the things of the Lord, to be holy both in body and spirit. But a married woman is concerned about the things of the world, how to please her husband. I am saying this for your benefit, not to place a limitation on you, but so that without distraction you may give notable and constant service to the Lord."

- Focus
 - You are able to focus on God without the additional responsibilities of having a spouse and caring for children. Not to say those married aren't able to, but in singleness, God should have our entire focus.
 - This allows us to become deeper in Christ and strengthen our faith in Him when trials come
- Flexibility
 - Again, those unmarried can participate in more opportunities for Christ since the responsibility of caring for a spouse/children isn't there. You can attend Christ focused events whether at your church or witnessing to others more frequently than someone married.
- Completeness

- During this season, we are able to define who we are in Christ and realize the spiritual gifts\roles He has given us. Thus allowing us to have our fulfillment in Him rather than another person.

Having contentment and desires

- God knows the desires of our hearts, and has given us the ability to be content in any circumstance.
- It's not a sin to desire marriage during this season, but you must have your satisfaction in God rather than a future companionship with a spouse.
- You can be content in singleness while bringing up your difficulties. We know there's difficulties in marriage, yet difficulties in singleness rarely get addressed. He will answer your prayers according to His will and timing. The key is to trust God "in any and every circumstance" (Philippians 4:12).

Acquiring a church family

- Being single doesn't mean to be lonely. You can have a church to not only have an extended family, but also more opportunities to devote to Christ.
- Mark 10:29–31 NET - Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, there is no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not receive **in this age**(other translations say, "in this time") a hundred times as much—homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, fields, all with persecutions—and in the age to come, eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."
- This means that God is promising us a family when we focus on serving Him. By becoming part of a church family, we are able to have support from fellow Christians in times of need.

Singleness isn't some sort of waiting room for marriage, God used plenty of people in their singleness. The key is, we have to continue to work during that time. Only God knows if and when He'll send a spouse to you. We have to ignore the statements from the world and sometimes even modern churches that try to say that being single has no returns and remember God can use us in any season.

References

- <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/single-but-not-lonely>
- <https://ftc.co/resource-library/articles/wisdom-for-unwanted-singleness-singleness-as-a-gift-part-1/>