

Whole and His Pastor Jon Laurenzo 10.19.2025

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Matthew 19: 1-7] ESV

Now when Jesus had finished these sayings, he went away from Galilee and entered the region of Judea beyond the Jordan. And large crowds followed him, and he healed them there. And Pharisees came up to him and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful to divorce one's wife for any cause?" He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate." They said to him, "Why then did Moses command one to give a certificate of divorce and to send her away?"

[Matthew 19: 8-9] ESV

He said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart Moses allowed you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so. And I say to you: whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery."

"God is not interested in changing His standard of holiness to fit culture, but is always calling us up to His standard" -Jon Laurenzo

[Matthew 19: 10] ESV

The disciples said to him, "If such is the case of a man with his wife, it is better not to marry."

"Imbibing cultural beliefs like "sex is a need", and "I'll be miserable if I don't get married", will make singleness or any sort of NO to sexual desires seem impossible" -Dr. Preston Sprinkle

[Matthew 19: 11] ESV

But he said to them, "Not everyone can receive this saying, but only those to whom it is given.

[Matthew 19: 12] ESV

For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it."

Three Calls for the Church in this Season

1. Single and Secure

"The church has an unintentional and at times an idolatrous view on marriage and sex, one that leaves single people in the dust and wondering if they are incomplete as image bearers of God. "
-Dr. Preston Sprinkle

[Ephesians 2: 8-10] NIV

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

2. Single and Sanctified

[1 Corinthians 7: 8-9] ESV

To the unmarried and the widows I say that it is good for them to remain single, as I am. But if they cannot exercise self-control, they should marry. For it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

"Marriage will not ERASE your problems; it will MAGNIFY them." -Jon Laurenzo

3. Single and Set Apart for Jesus

[Matthew 22: 29-30] ESV

But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

"The Happiest Marriage in the world is but a head start on the joys of heaven" -John Piper

Westminster Catechism: "Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever"

Key Points:

Three Calls for the Church in this Season

- 1. Single and Secure
- 2. Single and Sanctified
- 3. Single and Set Apart for Jesus

Applications for the Week:

Deep friendships and spiritual family are essential for flourishing. Who are the people in your life you can be truly known by? How can you invest more in those relationships this week?

Discussion Questions:

- **1.** In Matthew 19, what three categories of singleness does Jesus mention, and what does he say about those who can accept this teaching?
- **2.** According to 1 Corinthians 7, how does Paul describe his own relationship status, and what does he say about singleness as a gift?
- 3. In Matthew 22, how does Jesus describe relationships and marriage in the resurrection?
- **4.** Why do you think Jesus calls singleness "a gift" and not a curse? What does this say about God's view of single people?
- **5.** Why is intimacy (not just romance or marriage) so important for human flourishing, according to both Jesus' teaching and the sermon?
- **6.** What does it mean that even the best earthly relationships are only a "foretaste" of the intimacy and joy we will experience with God in eternity?
- **7.** Pastor Jon shared that loneliness and insecurity can tempt people into unhealthy relationships or obsessions. What are some practical ways to find security and wholeness in Christ instead?
- **8.** The sermon challenged the church to honor and celebrate singles, not just tolerate them. What are some specific ways our group or church could do this better?
- **9.** If you are married, how can you help create a church culture where singles are valued and included, not just paired off or left out?