

SINGLE

1st Corinthians 7:27-31 If you have a wife, do not seek to end the marriage. If you do not have a wife, do not seek to get married. 28 But if you do get married, it is not a sin. And if a young woman gets married, it is not a sin. However, those who get married at this time will have troubles, and I am trying to spare you those problems. 29 But let me say this, dear brothers and sisters: The time that remains is very short. So from now on, those with wives should not focus only on their marriage. 30 Those who weep or who rejoice or who buy things should not be absorbed by their weeping or their joy or their possessions. 31 Those who use the things of the world should not become attached to them. For this world as we know it will soon pass away.

Colossians 3:1-3 (Message) So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from his perspective.

The Goodness of Being _____

REMAINING SINGLE CAN BE A _____.

Marriage is never the _____; at best it can only be _____.
_____ without a spouse.

Ephesians 1:19-23 I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power 20 that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. 21 Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. 22 God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. 23 And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.

Christianity sees singleness as _____ because the kingdom of God provides the most lasting possible _____ and _____.

MARRIAGE CAN BE A _____.

The Goodness of Seeking _____

Proverbs 18:22 The man who finds a wife finds a treasure, and he receives favor from the LORD.

_____ of finding a spouse

- Ancient - _____.
- Romantic - _____.
- Modern - _____
- Current - _____

Practical Advice for Marriage Seekers

1. Recognize that there are _____ for not seeking marriage.

2. Understand the “_____.”

1st Corinthians 7:7 But I wish everyone were single, just as I am. Yet each person has a special gift from God, of one kind or another.

3. Get more _____ about seeking marriage as you get _____.

_____ *your* _____

4. Do not allow yourself deep emotional _____ with a _____ person.

5. Feel “_____” in the most _____ sense.

1st Corinthians 7:9 (NIV) But if they cannot control themselves, they should marry, for it is better to marry than to burn with passion.

6. Don't let things get too _____ too quickly.