





# COMMUNITY GUIDE

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## WEEKLY APPLICATION

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**TAKEAWAY:** Singles idolize marriage and treat it as the ultimate goal; marrieds are stuck searching for the idealized marriage they so long idolized.

**HEAD CHANGE:** Both singleness and marriage are a gift from God.

**HEART CHANGE:** Jesus is better than singleness and marriage.

**LIFE CHANGE:** Recommit to your present season.

## OVERVIEW

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### Singleness & Marriage: Gift or Idol?

Look in Christian bookstores at books on marriage and parenting – compare that with books on singleness – very few marriage books argue that marriage is a good thing – that's accepted. Instead, they talk about all the problems in marriage and how to deal with them. Christian marriage books tell you how to deal with the difficulty of marriage. Books on singleness take a different approach. They almost imply that singleness is a problem. They tell a person how to make the most of the time until the right person comes along. In other words, they say that the solution to the problem of singleness is marriage. And then – *“Good news – once you get married, you're going to have all other kinds of problems and read the marriage books.”* The scriptures teach something very different ...

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What stood out to you in this teaching? Why do you think that resonated?
2. Of the three main points in this message (Faithfulness in each season / Fight the urge to envy a different season / Recommit to the present season), which one resonates or challenges you the most? Why do you think that's the case?
3. Pastor Jordan said, “One season shouldn't be envied over another. In some ways the church may be at fault for this season of envy.” Do you agree or disagree? In what ways can you help be the change the church needs to see in order to celebrate both singlehood and marriage?
4. What would it practically look like for you to recommit to the season you are currently in? How difficult is that recommitment? How can you friend group help you?

## CLOSE IN PRAYER

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Father, we can't do any of this without You. We recognize that you are in control. Give us grace to hunger for your words more than those of anyone else. We accept your truth as the supreme authority in our lives. Teach us to see sin & grace as you do. In Jesus name, amen.

**IN THIS TOGETHER!**