

MARRIAGE, SINGLENESS, AND THE CHURCH

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OUTLINE:

1. Speaking from experience...
2. Interesting demographics
 - 1900
 - Today: United States
 - Bay area / Walnut Creek
 - The church / Hillside
3. A little history lesson
 - 1st century Jewish culture
 - Jesus' and NT radical new teaching: Luke 18:28-30, 9:62; 1 Cor. 7:32-35
 - 3rd century church
 - Two big splits
 - Early Protestantism
4. Reflections
 - Singleness as a common denominator, not a divider (Matt. 22:30)
 - Disadvantages : Advantages

ADVANTAGES OF SINGLENESS:

Freedom to make life-changing decisions:

Mark 1:16-18, Luke 9: 57-62, John 12:25-26

Availability to God: 1 Cor. 7:35

Openness to new experiences and relationships: Luke 14:15-24

- Our design (Gen. 2:23-24) : Jesus' priorities (Matt. 12:47-50)
5. Exhortations
 - To us: Live into the advantages!
 - To the church: Engage the Sleeping Giant