



MARRIAGE FROM A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE

SEPTEMBER 26, 2015

One: Singleness

The way we view dating has an enormous effect on how we view marriage and how we will live being married. Our present culture has an over-romanticized view of dating that emphasizes intimacy over commitment. With this in mind, it is imperative that believers see dating through the filter of Scripture and surround themselves with older and more mature believers. This complement of having a Scriptural lens and experiencing biblical community provides a more solid foundation to prepare for future oneness.

1. In what ways do you see our culture promoting intimacy over commitment? How can emphasizing intimacy before marriage affect future oneness?
2. Read 1 Timothy 5:2. Singles, what would it look like to treat your opposite gender as if they were your sibling in Christ? Marrieds, how would you treat your spouse differently if you saw them first as your sibling in Christ and then as your wife or husband?
3. Read Titus 2:4-5. Who have been mentors in your life who have pointed you to grow in Christ? Do you presently have an older couple pouring into you? If not, why not? If so, what have you learned from them?
4. Whether single or married, “the gall of bitterness” (Acts 8:23) happens when the cross does not take center stage in a relationship. Describe your life as a single or married person when the cross doesn’t take center stage in your relationship.
5. Read Ephesians 4:31-32. According to these verses, what is the impetus for forgiveness? How does learning how to grant forgiveness as a single prepare someone to forgive in marriage? Is there an area where you have not forgiven your spouse or an area where they do not feel forgiven?
6. How have you sought to be fulfilled from someone you are dating, your spouse, or God? Please explain.
7. If the question is, “does God look good because of how you date?” then, how is God glorified as people see your dating life (being single or married)?